

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | |
|-------------|--|----|
| I. | Survey Results and Issue Identification | |
| | Background | 1 |
| | Methodology | 1 |
| | Key Informant Survey | 3 |
| | Community Collaboration | 3 |
| | Community Issues | 5 |
| | Inventory of Community Assets | 7 |
| | Structure for Issue Discussion | 9 |
| | Issue Matrix | 10 |
| II. | State of the Community | |
| | Population and Economy | 11 |
| | Social Capital | 15 |
| III. | Infrastructure of the Community | |
| | Education | 18 |
| | Workforce and Underemployment | 22 |
| | Workforce 2020 Research | 26 |
| | Absenteeism | 28 |
| | Public Transportation | 29 |
| | Housing | 31 |
| IV. | People of the Community | |
| | Childhood Development | 35 |
| | Child Care | 35 |
| | Early Childhood Development | 38 |
| | Self Sufficiency | 39 |
| | Independent Living | 40 |
| | Homeless and Poor | 43 |
| | Teen Pregnancy | 46 |
| V. | Health of the Community | |
| | Mental Illness and Emotional Issues | 49 |
| | Substance Abuse | 53 |
| | Access to Health Care | 57 |
| | Access to Dental Care | 60 |
| | Behavioral/Life Style Health Issues | 62 |
| | Appendix A: Interviews for Data Collection and Issue Review | 64 |
| | Appendix B: Review of Recent Studies | 65 |

Community Profile
Survey Results and Quality of Life Indicators
Salina and Saline County
2002

by
Alliance for a Healthy Community
Tom Mulhern, President

*"To promote a healthy Saline County, Kansas community through assessment,
education and collaboration"*

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Salina Area United Way
Salina Public Schools, USD 305
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I. SURVEY RESULTS AND ISSUE IDENTIFICATION

This report updates previous needs assessments by the Alliance for a Healthy Community for Salina and Saline County. It is a collection and assembly of data describing the community's needs and assets and attempts to determine which issues are most critical.

Back ground

In 1996, the Alliance for a Healthy Community conducted and published a community needs assessment. Based on the results, the Alliance established ten priorities for improving the Salina area's quality of life. Each priority had measurable outcomes to be achieved by the Year 2000. The priority areas were:

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Youth Development | Teen Pregnancy |
| Tobacco Use | Cancer |
| Independent Living | Heart Disease |
| Alcohol and Drugs | Access to Health Services |
| Infant and Child Development | Family Violence, Abuse and Neglect. |

The Alliance members have been annually updating the indicators measuring outcomes of the ten priorities.

In 1999, the Alliance reviewed its process. After discussions with numerous local leaders from business, government, education, health care, and social and human service agencies, the Alliance decided to expand the focus beyond the ten priorities and also examine such subjects as housing, transportation, workforce, etc. A new, broader community assessment could also take advantage of recent assessments of specific issues and the results of the 2000 U.S. Census and 2000-2001 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey for Saline County (BRFSS).

Methodology

The Alliance chose as a guide and survey methodology the United Way of America's COMPASS program, developed by the United Way of America and the Gannett Foundation. This provided the survey instruments and overall methodology for the project. The project, named Community Compass, is organized in two phases. The first phase consists of collection and assembly of data describing the community's needs and assets and determining which are the most critical community issues. The second phase calls for a community development process which establishes the outcomes necessary to improve the quality of life of the community and targets the resources to achieve those outcomes.

The first phase began in spring 2001 and included two surveys. The Key Informant Survey (see distribution categories below for key informant definition) asked respondents to rate community strengths and the seriousness of issues and identify specific

demographic groups most affected by the issues. The Inventory of Community Assets surveyed community organizations and businesses to determine their interests and capacities to address community issues.

The surveys were followed up by personal interviews of a number of key informants (see Appendix A) to gain a deeper perspective on the issues identified as most important through the surveys and to acquire additional quantitative material describing and measuring these issues. The Alliance also reviewed the findings and recommendations of recent local community service plans and assessments of particular needs such as health, substance abuse, workforce, education, youth development, and early childhood education (see Appendix B). Only part of the 2000 U.S. Census is now available, but considerable national, state and local data on the economy, demographics, education, and other indicators have been assembled to help quantify the magnitude of the issues identified as critical. This data base is also available for community organizations to use in service planning and funding requests. Data is presented for both Saline County and the City of Salina when available and useful. Later in 2002, more 2000 U.S. Census data will become available at the city level.

The surveys from the COMPASS program were fine-tuned by the Alliance's Data Analysis Committee and a distribution methodology established. The Key Informant Survey was mailed to 366 persons and the returns kept confidential by a technical consulting team. The "asset" survey was sent to 119 organizations and businesses. Post card reminders were sent after one week to those not yet responding. The surveys were closed out on September 6, 2001.

The survey's distribution by category:

Service Clubs: All, Asset Survey
Business: Ten largest employers, both surveys
Major and Small-random sample, both surveys
Nonprofit: Random sample, both surveys
Schools: All schools, both surveys
Restaurants: Ethnicity and random cross-section, Key Informant Survey
Professionals: Random sample by type, Key Informant Survey
Government: Cross section for City of Salina and Saline County, Key Informant Survey
Third Class Cities, both surveys
Township Trustees, Key Informant Survey
Churches: Random sample, Key Informant Survey
Labor Unions: All, Asset Survey
Foundations: All, Asset Survey
Communications/Media: All, both surveys

Statistical analyses of the responses to both surveys can be accessed electronically. Contact the Salina Area United Way for file copies. The files are Adobe Acrobat form and named "KeyInformantReport(final revised)" and "CommunityAssetsPlus".

Key Informant Survey

The Key Informant Survey asked respondents to rate community strengths and the seriousness of issues. Key informants were also asked to note specific categories of people that have especially serious issues. A “comments” section allowed key informants to give more information about any community strengths or issues about which they are particularly concerned or knowledgeable.

The results focus on “community” concerns, not on the total extent of issues in the community. The findings therefore enable us to focus on issues not being adequately addressed by our community’s assets and resources.

The distribution of the survey attempted to get a good balance of community representation. Key informants included elected officials and government staff, large employers, labor leaders, directors of service provider organizations, school administrators; as well as a random sampling of businesses, churches, professionals, and non-profit organizations. Of the 366 questionnaires distributed, 106, or 29%, were completed and returned

Each person completing the Community Compass survey was asked to determine which of eight categories best described them – professional, homemaker, industrial, retail, service, volunteer, student and other. Nearly 70% of the respondents were “professional”. The next largest category (12%) was “service” and third (11%) was “other”. Each remaining category comprised less than 3%. There was a poor response rate from the medical profession and small business. There were no students responding.

Community Collaboration

The survey’s first set of responses covered the perceived level of cooperation among components of the Salina community. A statistical analysis of the responses is provided in the electronic file “Key Informant Report (final revised),” Section B.

Overall, the attitude of the respondents regarding community collaboration and cooperation was quite positive. Slightly more than 51% of all responses were in the “somewhat agree” category; followed by 22% responding “strongly agree”. The third largest response was “somewhat disagree” at 17%, “don’t know/no opinion” at 6%, and “strongly disagree” at 4%. Five of the questions had a positive response (either “strongly agree” or “somewhat agree”) of over 80%.

The most positive responses were to this statement: *Our community is one where businesses and corporations look for opportunities to expand their business operations within the local community.* Twenty-seven percent (27%) strongly agreed and 62% somewhat agreed. Businesses were viewed as being aggressively committed to Salina’s future. Two statements tied for second at slightly more than 88% positive responses: *Our community is one where Saline County businesses and professionals reinvest in the community and Our community is one where business, labor, government, education,*

faith, neighborhood, non-profits, and other stakeholders from all sectors collaborate to address critical community issues. Clearly, respondents viewed the business and professional community as deeply committed to Salina and proficient, not only in a strictly commercial sense, but also in confronting the larger social issues.

About 85% agreed: *Our community is one where there is respect among community leaders and stakeholders from business, labor, government, education, faith, neighborhood, nonprofit, and other groups from all sectors of the community.* Eighty-four percent (84%) responded favorably to: *Our community is one that promotes relationships among and participation from all race, genders, ages and cultures.* Survey participants very positively viewed the ability of diverse elements in Salina to appreciate each other and work profitably together.

About two-thirds responded positively to: *Our community is one where there are strong linkages between families, neighborhoods, and the whole community.* Once again, respondents displayed their belief that Salina has a strong integrated community, although 29% disagreed. As discussed below, the idea of neighborhoods as separate entities was probably not viewed as important. About the same number agreed: *Our community is one where the media presents adequate coverage of local issues and events.* This statement received the smallest number of “don’t know/no opinion” responses, so nearly one-third disagreed that the coverage was adequate. It is not clear if there is not enough coverage of specific programs and issues or if the coverage lacks depth.

About 53% felt: *Our community is one where all faith groups come together to address pressing social concerns.* About 10% responded “don’t know/no opinion”, and 36% disagreed. It is unclear whether the faith groups are seen as not working together or whether they are seen as not addressing pressing social concerns. Perhaps, faith groups are not seen as major collaborators in addressing community-wide problems, but as involved in more specific and individual issues.

Only one statement had a high negative response: *Our community is one where associations of neighborhoods from various parts of the community share strategies and work together.* Thirty-six percent responded favorably, 46% responded negatively, and 17% didn’t know, or had no opinion. It is likely that Salina is small enough that social concerns are seen as community-wide rather than confined to certain neighborhoods. There are few, if any, neighborhood associations that deal with issues beyond the subdivision level; that is, that require collaboration.

The three areas with the most negative responses concern the media, the faith groups and neighborhood involvement. Perhaps these issues could be discussed with various groups and individuals to determine why there were relatively high negative responses and if this represents a problem worth solving.

Overall, the responses indicate a strong community with a high degree of collaboration and cooperation. Although the survey was sent to a representative group, there was the largest response from professionals, followed by the service industry. These two groups

are probably the largest contributors to the collaboration process and could be seen as patting themselves on the back, but they are also the ones most vitally interested and possessing the clearest picture of what is being accomplished.

Community Issues

In this section the respondents were given a list of 40 common issues, grouped in ten subject areas, and asked to answer: not an issue, minor issue, moderate issue, major issue, or don't know. They could add issues not listed. A statistical analysis of the responses for each issue is presented in "Key Informant Report (final revised)", Section C.

The subject areas are:

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Economic | Health | Safety | Technology |
| Educational | Housing | Social | |
| Environmental | Leisure Activities | Public Infrastructure | |

The Appendix, Section C, Summary, displays the ten predefined issues that received the most concern from the respondents, ordered by both their means/medians (the average answer) and by their modes (the most common answer).

| Ordered by mean and median | Ordered by Mode |
|---|---|
| Availability of quality child care | Availability of quality child care |
| School funding | School funding |
| Alcohol, tobacco and/or drug abuse | Availability of transportation |
| Availability of transportation | Access to dental care |
| Public transportation | Alcohol, tobacco and/or drug abuse |
| Availability of affordable homes | Public transportation |
| Teen pregnancy | Availability of affordable homes |
| Family violence, abuse of children/adults | Teen pregnancy |
| Availability of affordable rental housing | Family violence, abuse of children/adults |
| Language barriers | Availability of affordable rental housing |

Nine issues turn up using either method. Language barriers and access to dental care appear in only one ordering. This indicates a strong consensus on the top issues.

The respondents were also asked to prioritize the issues: most serious, second, and third most serious. "Key Informant Report (final revised)", Section D, Priorities, ranks the issues by the number of times mentioned, without assigning any weight. This ordering brings forward several more issues of high concern, including resources for children and youth, access to health care, and issues about the labor force. It reinforces the issues of access to dental care and issues about immigration and language barriers.

To provide a further refinement, several of the issues in the priority list that are closely related were combined, then weighted by the number of times they were mentioned as most (x3), second (x2), and third (x1) most important. The following table displays the

order resulting. While the order changes somewhat among ranking techniques, the same issues appear.

| Times Mentioned | ISSUE | Ranked 1 st | Ranked 2nd | Ranked 3rd | Weighted Score |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| 33 | School funding | 18 | 8 | 8 | 78 |
| 33 | Child care availability | 13 | 14 | 10 | 77 |
| 13 | Adequate work force | 9 | 12 | 6 | 57 |
| 24 | Cultural & language barriers | | 6 | 10 | 49 |
| 33 | Availability of transportation | 8 | 8 | 6 | 46 |
| 16 | Substance abuse | 9 | 7 | 3 | 44 |
| 20 | Family issues | 9 | 2 | 9 | 40 |
| 31 | Housing | 6 | 3 | 8 | 32 |
| 15 | Teen pregnancy | 4 | 5 | 2 | 24 |
| 12 | Underemployment | 3 | 5 | 1 | 20 |
| 15 | Resources for children/youth | 3 | 3 | 2 | 17 |
| 10 | Access dental care | 1 | 5 | 4 | 17 |
| 16 | Access health care | | | 10 | 10 |

A number of the responses were gathered at meetings of four community groups meeting during the survey period. Each group discussed their responses and listed the issues they felt most critical. Three of the groups: Childcare and Work Task Force, Youth Development Task Force, and the United Way-affiliated Agency Directors Committee, are composed of agency or program directors involved in social and human service activities. The fourth group is the Salina Area United Way Board of Directors, a diverse group of community leaders. An amalgamation of these four groups' priorities results in a list of issues almost identical to those resulting from the total responses.

For another perspective on community concerns, the respondents were asked how serious the community issues for certain population groups are. A detailed statistical analysis of the responses is found in "Key Informant Report (final revised)", Section E, Population Groups. Five groups were predefined plus a write-in option. Approximately 90% of the respondents filled out this section for the predefined groups.

By arranging these groups in descending order by their mean, medians and modes, an order in which the respondents think groups are most affected by the issues is obtained:

1. Poor
2. Children
3. Minorities
4. Youth
5. Elderly

The majority of the respondents felt the community issues were very serious for the poor. For children, 75% rated the issues as somewhat or very serious, with the mode (most selected) being very serious. Approximately 2/3 believed minorities, youth and the elderly were somewhat or very seriously affected; however, most felt the impact was the lesser-somewhat serious. These scores indicate that any discussion of the community issues should take into consideration the impact on these population groups.

The survey also asked the respondents to make brief comments about community strengths and issues. A summary listing is provided in the “Key Informant Report (final revised)”, Section F, Comments and Suggestions.

Inventory of Community Assets

The Community Compass process includes identifying those organizations which help address community issues and surveying them to determine their interests and capacities. Going beyond the usual review of social and human service providers, surveys were sent to 119 civic associations, businesses, and labor organizations as well as 104 service providers in the Salina area. A detailed statistical analysis of the responses is available electronically in file “Community Assets Plus”.

The survey response ranged from nearly half the service providers to a quarter of the businesses, labor unions and civic organizations. Because of the low response, follow-up interviews, while time-consuming, were conducted with a number of key agencies to ensure relevant to community assets and issues were covered. A list of those interviewed is attached.

The largest response came from civic (32%) and social service (45%) organizations whose traditional strength is their community-wide membership and dedication to the organization’s goals. The organization’s membership can provide leadership and gather together both financial resources and volunteer manpower to address community issues. While such organizations most often have a particular mission or interest, they have structure and capacity to address a wide variety of issues of broad community concern. The aggregate response, shown in the table below, of all the surveys returned gives a broad picture of assets available in the community.

The responses in the table indicate a strong civic organizational presence in job creation and preparation, health promotion, community networking, volunteerism, and recreation support. Those areas with a strong current involvement all showed potential for increased involvement. Important issues which have a low level of current involvement but relatively high potential to expand include school reform, availability of affordable housing, and access to transportation.

| Resource for leading or participating in community initiatives or projects | Currently Involved | Potential New Resource |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Promoting economic development | 24.3% | 9.5% |
| Creating jobs | 28.4 | 14.9 |
| Preparing people for jobs | 36.5 | 16.2 |
| Promoting school reform | 16.2 | 13.5 |
| Promoting good health | 52.7 | 21.6 |
| Increasing available affordable housing | 10.8 | 12.2 |
| Increasing availability of recreation opportunities | 23.0 | 9.5 |
| Increasing neighborhood safety | 17.6 | 9.5 |
| Promoting volunteering | 62.2 | 25.7 |
| Fostering community networks | 51.4 | 21.6 |
| Connecting neighbors needing help with those who can help | 24.3 | 5.4 |
| Building neighborhood trust | 10.8 | 8.1 |
| Improving access to transportation | 13.5 | 12.2 |
| Beautifying community spaces | 16.2 | 8.1 |
| Designing a plan for community renewal | 2.7 | 12.2 |

Business and labor unions were also asked the following questions:

| | |
|--|-------|
| Does your organization provide meeting space to community groups? | 47.4% |
| Does your organization make materials and equipment (e.g., duplicating machines, computers) available to community groups? | 47.4 |
| Does your organization place emphasis on purchasing goods and services from local enterprises? | 89.5 |
| Does your organization place emphasis on hiring people locally? | 89.5 |

Those that responded indicate a strong commitment to the community, although the number of businesses and labor unions responding to the survey –nineteen– is not a large sampling.

The detailed response from each of the 74 respondents is available and will be useful when matching specific issues to current and potential resources. In addition, substantial documentation of the capacities and current service characteristics of most service providers is available.

Organization-specific information acquired through the survey includes:

- Specific activities and available resources, by organization and by type of activity
- Volunteer hours donated and utilized
- Source of funding for non-profit service providers
- Charitable funds raised

- Geographic areas served
- Certifications and licensing
- Staffing information
- Information about people served.

Structure for Issue Discussion

The attached matrix lists the critical issues from the Key Informant Survey. These issues are cross referenced with the results of the interviews, focus groups and selected recent community assessments. Dental access is included in access to health care. The issue of the language barrier for recent immigrants, mainly Hispanic, is included in education issues and early childhood development where there is some quantification of the impact. Two issues, independent living and mental health and emotional issues, which did not rank high in the survey, were emphasized as critical issues in the subsequent key informant interviews.

Two issues ranked relatively high in the survey will not be examined in this report. Subsequent interviews have demonstrated that “resources for children and youth” is not an issue of lack of resources, but one of motivation of children and their parents to access and use existing programs, which is not a quantifiable subject. “Family issues” is a very broad category. It is assumed that many of the causes and effects therein are addressed in the other issues examined in this report, particularly mental health.

The matrix suggests a system approach to further examination of the issues. The following categories are used for further exploring the issues:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| II. State of the Community | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Population and Economy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Social Capital |
| III. Infrastructure of the Community | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Education -Workforce and Underemployment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Public Transportation -Housing |
| IV. People of the Community | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Child Care -Early Childhood Development -Independent Living | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Homelessness and Poor -Teen Pregnancy |
| V. Health of the Community | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Mental Illness and Emotional Issues -Substance Abuse -Access to Health Care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to Dental Care -Behavioral/Lifestyle Health Issues |

COMMUNITY PROFILE ISSUE MATRIX

| | School funding | Child Care | Work Force | Language & cultural | Public Transport | Substance abuse | Family Issues | Housing | Teen Pregnancy | Under Employment | Youth Resources | Access to Health care | Independent Living | Mental Health | Health Problems* |
|---|-------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Key Informant Survey | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | |
| Childcare & Work TF | | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | X | | | |
| Youth Development TF | X | X | X | | X | X | X | | X | X | | X | | | |
| SAUW Board | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | |
| Agency Directors | | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | | X | | X | |
| Interviews | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | | X | | X | X | X | |
| 2001 BRFS | | X | X | | | | X | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| SAUW Causes | | X | | X | X | X | X | | X | | X | X | X | | X |
| Success by 6 | | X | | X | | | X | | | | | X | | X | |
| Heartland Programs '00 | | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | | X | X | | | |
| Connect Kansas '01 | | | | | | X | X | | X | | X | | | | |
| Kansas Kids Count | | | | | | X | X | | X | | | | | | |
| Sunflower BRFS '00 | | | | | | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Youth Profile '98 | | | | | | | X | | | | X | | | X | X |
| 1997 BRFS | | | | | | X | | | | | | X | | | X |
| Alliance 10 Priorities '96 | X | X | | | | X | X | | X | | X | X | X | | X |
| Alliance Survey '95 | | | | | | X | | X | X | X | | X | | | X |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| * Defined in section: Health of Community | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

II. STATE OF THE COMMUNITY

Population and Economy

- The population of Saline County in 2000 was 53,597; City of Salina 45,679 (see table below). The County has regained its 1960 population and Salina has just exceeded it. After the significant drop in population following the closing of Schilling Air Force Base in 1965, the County grew 5% and Salina 11% in the 1970's. This was followed by a no growth 1980 decade. Growth reignited during the 1990's with a County growth of 8.7% or 4,296 persons. Salina grew 8%. Twenty percent of total County increase was outside Salina. In addition to the incorporated towns shown in the table below, the following are unincorporated: Bridgeport, Falun, Glendale, Hedville, Kipp, Mentor and Salemsborg.

SALINE COUNTY POPULATION Census Data from 1900 to 2000

| Year | County | Rural | Salina | Assaria | Brookville | Gypsum | New Cambria | Smolan |
|------|--------|--------|--------|---------|------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| 1900 | 17,076 | 9,944 | 6,074 | 214 | 292 | 552 | | |
| 1910 | 20,338 | 9,509 | 9,680 | 246 | 280 | 623 | | |
| 1920 | 25,103 | 8,713 | 15,085 | 234 | 212 | 732 | 127 | |
| 1930 | 29,337 | 7,981 | 20,155 | 201 | 237 | 633 | 130 | |
| 1940 | 29,535 | 7,250 | 21,073 | 232 | 221 | 615 | 144 | |
| 1950 | 33,409 | 6,108 | 26,178 | 221 | 213 | 521 | 168 | |
| 1960 | 54,715 | 10,165 | 43,202 | 322 | 246 | 593 | 187 | |
| 1970 | 46,592 | 7,611 | 37,714 | 303 | 238 | 391 | 160 | 175 |
| 1980 | 48,905 | 5,622 | 41,843 | 414 | 259 | 423 | 175 | 169 |
| 1990 | 49,301 | 5,673 | 42,303 | 392 | 220 | 364 | 165 | 184 |
| 2000 | 53,597 | 6,439 | 45,679 | 438 | 259 | 414 | 150 | 218 |

- The City of Salina projects the City to grow to 50,800 persons by 2010, a faster rate (11%) than the 1990's. This could be a conservative projection due to the evidence of recent immigration and migration to the Salina area of residents from its hinterland of North Central Kansas due to access to employment, health care and human services.
- The proportion of children (persons under 18 years of age) has grown only slightly (see following table) in the past decade. The population 65 years and older is stable as a percentage of total population. However, there are about 1,100 more children in the population and over 500 more senior citizens. While the children's growth rate of 8.3% may not continue due to demographic reasons, demographics and in migration from the hinterland do suggest an even higher rate of growth of the population 65 year and older. Median age for Saline County has increased from 33.5 to 36.1 in the 1990's.

Demographics and Household Comparisons: U.S. Census 2000

| Demographics and household comparisons: U.S. Census 2000 | Saline County | State of Kansas | Nation |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Population 2000 | 53,597 | 2,688,418 | 281,421,906 |
| Population, % change '90-'00 | 8.71 | 8.5 | 13.1 |
| Persons <5 years, % 2000 | 6.9 | 7.0 | 6.8 |
| Person <18 years, % 2000 | 26.2 | 26.5 | 25.7 |
| Person <18 years, % 1990 | 25.9 | | |
| Persons 65 years and over, % 2000 | 14.0 | 13.3 | 12.4 |
| Persons 65 years and over, % 1990 | 14.4 | | |
| White persons, 2000 | 47,794 | | |
| White persons, % 2000 | 89.2 | 86.1 | 75.1 |
| Black persons, 2000 | 1,660 | | |
| Black persons, % 2000 | 3.1 | 5.7 | 12.3 |
| Black persons, % 1990 | 3.1 | | |
| Hispanic or Latino person, 2000 | 3,228 | | |
| Hispanic or Latino person, % 2000 | 6.0 | 7.0 | 12.5 |
| Hispanic or Latino person, % 1990 | 2.0 | | |
| Asian persons, 2000 | 910 | | |
| Asian persons, % 2000 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 3.6 |
| Asian persons, % 1990 | 1.2 | | |
| High school graduates, persons 25+ | 26,198 | | |
| % High school graduates | 75.8 | | |
| College graduates, persons 25+ | 5,611 | | |
| % College graduates | 16.2 | | |
| Housing units, 2000 | 22,695 | | |
| Homeownership, rate % 2000 | 69.0 | 69.2 | 66.2 |
| Homeownership, rate % 1990 | 64.1 | | |
| Households, 2000 | 21,436 | 1,037,891 | |
| Persons per household, 2000 | 2.43 | 2.51 | 2.59 |
| Persons per household, 1990 | 2.40 | | |
| Households with person <18, % 2000 | 34.4 | 35.5 | 36.0 |
| One person households, 2000 | 6,075 | | |
| 2+ person households, 2000 | 15,361 | | |
| Non family households, 2000 | 1,150 | | |
| Median household money income, 1997 est. | \$36,682 | \$36,488 | \$37,005 |
| Persons below poverty line, % 1997 est. | 11.2 | 10.9 | 13.3 |
| Children below poverty line, % 1997 est. | 16.2 | 15.4 | 19.9 |
| Private non farm employment, 90-98 change | 19.7 | 21.0 | 15.7 |

- Saline County has experienced growing racial diversity in the past ten years, especially from the increase in Asian and Hispanic/Latino persons. The Black/Afro-American population represented 3.1% of the population in both 1990 and 2000 (Year 2000: 1,600 persons). The Asian population grew from 1.2 to 1.7 percent of the population (Year 2000: 910 persons). The Hispanic and Latino proportion has

dramatically increased from 2% to 6% (Year 2000: 3,228), and may be undercounted. USD 305 reports that Spanish as a first language students make up approximately 12% of it students. The heads of household in the Asian and Hispanic/Latino families tend to be younger than the norm; therefore, a higher birth rate should be expected.

- The per capita income of Saline County residents in 1990 was \$19,023. It climbed to \$22,596 in 1995 and to \$27,960 in 1999 (Salina Journal, 8/5/01), a nine-year growth of 47%. This is an annual growth rate of 4.3% which is substantially above most inflation estimates for the period and therefore indicates a growth in real income for county residents as a whole. Non-farm employment increased about 20% in the 1990's.
- The above table displays the proportion of persons living in poverty as of 1997. While 11% of all persons lived below the poverty line (Year 2000: \$18,200 for a family of four), 16.2% of children in Saline County (2,275) lived in poverty. \$17,650 represents the take-home pay of two workers in a household working full time at \$5.15 per hour, a wage not unusual for entry level, unskilled, and/or production line employees in the Salina area. The Kansas Department of Education statistics for local school districts shows that 43% of county students are receiving free or reduced price lunches, another indicator of low income.
- The 2000 U.S. Census enumerated 52,154 Saline County residents living in 21,436 households (see table below). The majority of these households, 11,336 or 52.9%, were maintained by married couples, slightly lower than the state average. The second most common type of household consisted of people living alone: 6,075.
- 5,114 or 23.9% of households contain a person 65 years or older. About 2,300 persons 65 years or older were living alone. This is substantially more that the households headed by a female with children and no husband (1,387).

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE: 2000
US Census for Saline County, Kansas

| Total Population Sex and Age | Number | % | Relationship | Number | % |
|---|--------|------|--|--------|-------|
| Male | 26,449 | 49.3 | In households | 52,154 | 97.3 |
| Female | 27,148 | 50.7 | Householder | 21,436 | 40.0 |
| | | | Spouse | 11,336 | 21.2 |
| Under 5 years | 3,713 | 6.9 | Child | 15,276 | 28.5 |
| 5 to 9 years | 3,871 | 7.2 | Own child <18 | 12,842 | 24.0 |
| 10 to 14 years | 3,977 | 7.4 | Other relatives | 1,552 | 2.9 |
| 15 to 19 years | 4,132 | 7.7 | <18 | 660 | 1.2 |
| 20 to 24 years | 3,367 | 6.3 | Non relatives | 2,554 | 4.8 |
| 25 to 34 years | 6,890 | 12.9 | Unmarried partner | 1,111 | 2.1 |
| 35 to 44 years | 8,343 | 15.6 | In group quarters | 1,443 | 2.7 |
| 45 to 54 years | 7,198 | 13.4 | Institutionalized pop. | 710 | 1.3 |
| 55 to 59 years | 2,510 | 4.7 | Non institutionalized pop. | 733 | 1.4 |
| 60 to 64 years | 2,116 | 3.9 | | | |
| 65 to 74 years | 3,818 | 7.1 | Households by Type | | |
| 75 to 84 years | 2,696 | 5.0 | Total households | 21,436 | 100.0 |
| 85 years and over | 966 | 1.8 | Family households (families) | 14,211 | 66.3 |
| | | | With own children <18 | 6,891 | 32.1 |
| Median age | 36.1 | | Married-couple family | 11,336 | 52.9 |
| | | | With own children <18 | 4,983 | 23.2 |
| 18 years and over | 39,551 | 73.8 | Female householder, no husband present | 2,078 | 9.7 |
| Male | 19,207 | 35.8 | With children <18 | 1,387 | 6.5 |
| Female | 20,344 | 38.0 | Non family households | 7,225 | 33.7 |
| 21 years and over | 37,189 | 69.4 | Householder living alone | 6,075 | 28.3 |
| 62 years and over | 8,710 | 16.3 | Householder 65 years + | 2,296 | 10.7 |
| 65 years and over | 7,480 | 14.0 | Households with individuals under 18 years | 7,367 | 34.4 |
| Male | 3,029 | 5.7 | Households with individuals 65 years + | 5,114 | 23.9 |
| Female | 4,451 | 8.3 | | | |

- The following table presents economic information since 1980, prepared by the Policy Research Institute of the University of Kansas, 2000.

**Saline County Economic Data
(Number of Persons Employed or Dollar Total)**

| | 1980 | 1990 | 1999 |
|---|----------|----------|------------|
| Employment Total (by place of work) | 29,764 | 32,679 | 39,425 |
| Construction | 1,649 | 1,715 | 2,301 |
| Manufacturing | 5,075 | 5,969 | 6,888 |
| Transportation | 1,699 | 1,222 | 1,521 |
| Wholesale Trade | 1,988 | 1,814 | 1,751 |
| Retail Trade | 5,874 | 6,332 | 7,861 |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate | 1,805 | 1,491 | 2,068 |
| Services | 7,083 | 8,935 | 11,412 |
| Government and Govt. Services | 3,265 | 3,823 | 4,378 |
| Agricultural Services and Mining | 298 | 527 | suppressed |
| Civilian Labor Force (Saline County residents) | 26,813 | 28,454 | 30,904 |
| Per Capita Income | \$10,424 | \$19,719 | \$28,624 |
| Tangible Assessed Valuation (in millions of dollars) | N/A | \$210.00 | \$363.30 |

Social Capital

The responses to the Key Informant survey indicate that most (73%) key informants felt that the people of the Salina area can and do work together to resolve problems and improve the community's well-being. This community asset of problem solving and collective effort is difficult to measure because no system of record keeping exists to track the number of people involved in the wide variety of activities, organizations and volunteer situations. For purposes of this assessment, three factors will be discussed: volunteerism, charitable giving and voter turn-out, each of which contribute to the community's social capital and partially describe the level of civic engagement.

Volunteerism: On November 20, 2001, United Way of America released its State of Caring Index, citing a 10% rise, nationally, in volunteerism over the last decade. From 1988 to 1999, the voluntary sector showed continued strong performance. A large percentage of the adult population was volunteering in 1999 (about 56%), continuing a steady trend from the late 1980's. Though a large portion of the public volunteers, people have shown a tendency to spend less time per week volunteering.

The following United Way of America data shows this national trend:

| Year | Average weekly hours volunteering, persons 18+ | % Adults volunteering |
|----------|--|-----------------------|
| 1988 | 4.3 | 49.8 |
| 1999 | 3.4 | 56.1 |
| % change | -21.3 | 12.5 |

Source: United Way of America, 2000

The Salina Volunteer Connection coordinates and organizes volunteers for a broad variety of nonprofit and charitable programs. Over 1,000 persons are registered. Two special programs are for the elderly and the young. RSVP matches those 55 and older with volunteer opportunities. The President's Student Service Challenge recognizes and awards scholarships, in conjunction with the Civitan Club, to middle and high school students for substantial time given in community service.

The Volunteer Connection reports that several factors inhibits the volunteer potential. There are not enough volunteer opportunities, especially for young persons. This is somewhat exacerbated by court ordered community service requirements. Secondly, rewarding volunteer service must be properly organized to ensure the experience is useful and matches talent to need. Local experience verifies the national trend that people are looking for shorter term volunteer activities, but may participate in more of them, more often.

The Salina Healthy Youth/Healthy Community Initiative promotes youth volunteerism as a strategy to help young persons feel more a part of their community and to feel valued by the community. The volunteer activities can help youth meet people, explore careers, and learn about their community. It is important that youth perceive their volunteering as a valuable service.

Charitable giving: One of the community's greatest resources is the rich diversity of nonprofit organizations that serve the people of Saline County. Citizens have a long tradition of coming together to help each other, foster art and culture, stimulate learning, and generally improve the lives of the residents for a long time. Most of these organizations qualify for IRS 501(c)3 status and are not only exempt from state and federal taxes, but may allow their donors to take a federal and often state income tax deduction for their charitable gifts. These nonprofits also bring into the community grants and contracts from out-of-county federal, state and private businesses and foundations to support their activities.

The United Way of America State of Caring Index report states that support from all sources to nonprofit organizations (largely excluding giving to place of worship) rose nationally 115 percent, from \$289 per capita to \$623 per capita, between 1989 and 1999 (in 1999 dollars). In Kansas, support increased 130%, from \$171 to \$394 per capita. Per capita, support from all sources in Kansas is 40 percent less than the

national average. Kansas ranked 38th among states. It is possible that Kansas nonprofits do not receive as much national public and private funding as some other states.

To give a more local measure, the following table, from United Way of America records, compares the level of giving to the Salina Area United Way with several similar sized Kansas communities and the median of thirty similar sized communities throughout the country.

2000/2001 Campaign, Economic and Demographic Data

| Community | Amount Raised | Per Capita | Per Employed Person | Per \$10,000 Of EBI* | \$EBI* (000) |
|--------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Salina | \$1,105,340 | \$18.36 | \$32.52 | \$11.35 | \$973,817 |
| Hutchinson | 923,837 | 14.43 | 29.85 | 9.33 | 990,169 |
| Manhattan | 483,000 | 7.82 | 16.41 | 5.93 | 813,948 |
| Leavenworth | 362,000 | 5.03 | 12.85 | 3.04 | 1,190,513 |
| Median of 30 | 700,084 | 11.09 | 21.21 | 7.64 | 883,047 |

* Effective buying income

Source: United Way of America, 2001

Using United Way giving as a parameter, the above table demonstrates that the Salina area gives significantly more to charity than peer communities. The Salina Area United Way (SAUW) annual campaigns have raised a steadily increasing amount since 1982, from \$600,000 to the \$1,105,340 shown above (SAUW records). However, when adjusted for inflation, the amount raised by SAUW has only slightly increased since 1982 – from \$600,000 to \$630,000.

Election turn-out: Though voter turn-out is only one indication of active participation by citizens, it is key evidence of people’s willingness to become involved in understanding and resolving local problems. The following table presents data on Kansas and national voting trends.

Voting Trends

| | 1999 | '88-'99 Change | Peak Year | Peak Participation |
|--------|-------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Kansas | 56.1% | +3.7 | 1992 & 1996 | 63% |
| Nation | 49.1 | -2.2 | 1992 | 55 |

Source: United Way of America State of Caring Index, 2001

Kansas has demonstrated, over the past decade, a higher proportion of turn-out than the national average during presidential elections.

The voter turn-out in the 2000 Presidential Election in Saline County was 22,027 or 55.7% of total voting age population (39,551). The turn-out was 63.4% of registered voters (34,745). This measure of civic engagement shows Saline County to be on par with the state and higher than the national average. Approximately 45% of eligible persons did not vote. On the other hand, only 12% were not registered to vote.

III. INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE COMMUNITY

Community Issues

Education
Workforce and Underemployment
Public Transportation
Housing

Education

The Key Informant Survey rated four educational issues. In descending order of importance based on the mean and the mode of responses, the four issues are school funding, language barriers, illiteracy and unsafe school environment.

School funding was rated a major issue by 56% of the respondents and only 18% thought the issue minor or not an issue. The survey did not specify if funding is too high or too low. Subsequent discussion with the Salina Area United Way Board of Directors and the Youth Development Task Force points to the main concern being the equity of the state funding formula which allocates most of tax revenues available to local school districts.

The problem of language barriers, as a constraint on student's ability to succeed and as a staffing and financial concern to the school districts, was considered a major problem by 30% of respondents. 74% rated the issue as a moderate or major problem. Follow up interviews and a review of recent local needs assessments amplifies the negative consequences for students and their non-English speaking parents.

The survey results showed a consensus that illiteracy and unsafe school environment were minor issues.

Indicators

State Funding of School Districts: School Year 2001/02

| | % of Students | % of Funding | Average \$ per Pupil |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Small school districts | 32% | 37% | \$7,000 |
| Mid-sized School districts* | 34 | 30 | 5,000 |
| Large school districts | 34 | 33 | 5,400 |
| State average | | | 5,500 |
| Highest district | | | 12,300 |
| Lowest district | | | 4,400 |

* USD 305-Salina category

Source: Schools for Fair Funding, 2001

State and Local Funding for School Saline County Public School Districts
General Fund (State Levied and Allocated)

| District | 95/96 | 00/01 | Annualized Growth |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Salina | \$27,233,798 | \$31,443,948 | 2.96% |
| S.E. of Saline | 3,783,006 | 4,117,960 | 1.72 |
| Ell-Saline | 2,625,587 | 2,955,916 | 2.40 |

Local Option Budget (District Levied)

| District | 95/96 | 00/01 |
|----------------|-------|-------------|
| Salina | 0 | \$6,587,000 |
| S.E. of Saline | 0 | 109,394 |
| Ell-Saline | 0 | 186,834 |

Source: Kansas Department of Education, Financial Report, 2001

Saline County School Districts Personnel (Full Time Equivalents/FTE): 2001

| <u>Non-certified</u> | | <u>Certified</u> | |
|--|-------|------------------|---------|
| Business Services | 4.5 | Central office | 24.0 |
| Maintenance | 101.1 | In school | |
| Food Service | 90.9 | Elementary | 405.4 |
| Transportation | 7.1 | Junior High | 135.8 |
| Special Education paraprofessionals | 242.3 | Senior High | 253.0 |
| In school support services | 23.6 | Subtotal | 818.2 |
| Secretarial/clerical | 147.6 | TOTAL | 1,461.6 |
| Other | 26.3 | | |
| Subtotal | 643.4 | | |

Source: Kansas Department of Education, District Reports, 2001

Saline County Enrollment Trends: School Years 93/94 and 01/02

| | 93/94 | 01/02 | % Change |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|----------|
| Total Enrollment | 9,619 | 9,495 | -1.3% |
| White | 8,535 | 7,821 | -8.4 |
| Black | 449 | 534 | 18.9 |
| Hispanic | 373 | 856 | 129.5 |
| Asian | 227 | 225 | -0.9 |
| Amer. Indian | 35 | 59 | 68.6 |
| Free lunches | n/a | 2,379 | |
| Reduced price lunches | n/a | 1,108 | |
| Free & Reduced combined | 3,007 | 3,487 | 16.0 |
| Special Education students | 770 | 1,027 | 33.4 |

Source: Kansas Department of Education, Building-level Reports, 2001

Saline County Enrollment by District: School Year 2001/02

| District | Enrollment |
|--------------------------|------------|
| USD 305 – Salina | 7,483 |
| USD 306 S.E. – of Saline | 638 |
| USD 307 – Ell-Saline | 432 |
| Salina Catholic Schools | 818 |

Source: Kansas Department of Education, District Reports, 2001

Saline County Post Secondary Status: School Year 2000/01

| Reported Destination | Total | Male | Female |
|------------------------------------|-------|------|--------|
| College | 444 | 205 | 239 |
| Other post secondary (non-college) | 27 | 22 | 5 |
| Employment | 55 | 37 | 18 |
| Military service | 18 | 14 | 4 |
| All other | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Status unknown | 53 | 36 | 17 |

Source: Kansas Department of Education, Building-level Reports, 2001

Estimated Impact of Tax Reductions, FY 1995-FY 2001
(Reductions in Millions of Dollars)

| Type | FY 1995 | FY 1996 | FY 1997 | FY 1998 | FY 1999 | FY 2000 | FY 2001 |
|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Car Tax | | 7.1 | 35.6 | 80.6 | 132.4 | 187.3 | 237.0 |
| General Property Tax | | | | 115.6 | 266.2 | 322.1 | 334.0 |
| Property Tax Subtotal | | 7.1 | 35.6 | 196.2 | 398.6 | 509.4 | 571.0 |
| Income Taxes | | | | 19.1 | 157.0 | 170.4 | 177.2 |
| Replace Inheritance tax with Estate Tax | | | | | 30.5 | 63.3 | 66.4 |
| Sales Tax Exemptions | 2.1 | 31.9 | 33.4 | 35.0 | 60.4 | 66.8 | 73.0 |
| Severance Taxes | | | | | 2.7 | 4.6 | 4.6 |
| Insurance Premium Taxes | | | | 1.5 | 21.6 | 26.6 | 28.6 |
| Employers' Unemployment Contributions | 51.4 | 145.8 | 167.7 | 199.1 | 217.5 | 117.3 | -- |
| Total Tax Reductions | 53.5 | 184.8 | 236.7 | 450.9 | 888.3 | 958.4 | 920.8 |
| Cumulative Reductions | 53.5 | 238.3 | 475.0 | 925.9 | 1,814.2 | 2,772.6 | 3,693.3 |

Source: Kansas Division of Budget, 2002

Unified School Districts Tax Revenues, State Totals

| School Year | FTE Enrollment | State Aid \$ | % Increase | Local Option Budget | % Increase | Total State & LOB \$ | % Increase |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| 1994-1995 | 440,684 | 1,914,227,000 | | 168,257,000 | | 2,082,484,000 | |
| 1995-1996 | 442,466 | 1,949,887,000 | 1.9 | 185,292,000 | 10.1 | 2,135,179,000 | 2.5 |
| 1996-1997 | 445,767 | 1,996,440,000 | 2.4 | 206,114,000 | 11.2 | 2,202,554,000 | 3.2 |
| 1997-1998 | 448,609 | 2,059,739,152 | 3.2 | 232,427,000 | 12.8 | 2,292,166,152 | 4.1 |
| 1998-1999 | 448,925 | 2,118,121,000 | 2.8 | 282,129,000 | 21.4 | 2,400,250,000 | 4.7 |
| 1999-2000 | 448,610 | 2,160,364,809 | 2.0 | 322,786,882 | 14.4 | 2,487,603,000 | 3.6 |
| 2000-2001 | 446,970 | 2,193,150,099 | 1.4 | 373,546,828 | 15.3 | 2,566,696,927 | 3.2 |
| 2001-2002 | 446,772 | 2,237,690,889 | 2.0 | 466,684,903 | 24.9 | 2,704,375,792 | 5.4 |

Source: Kansas Division of Budget, 2002

Findings

State Funding:

- Kansas spends half the tax dollars it raises for general government programs - \$2.34 billion in the current budget – on aid to its 304 school districts. (Salina Journal, November 19, 2001)
- Teacher-related expenses account for 66% of the USD 305/Salina budget; 85% for total personnel expenses. (USD 305)
- 291 of the 304 school districts are spending more than \$467 million through local option property taxes, up 20% from the 2000/2001 budget year. Only 30 districts used the full 25% of the local option taxation allowable. (Salina Journal, October 12, 2001)
- State funding of mid-sized school districts (see the first table above), including USD 305, receive proportionately less funding through the state formula than their enrollment. USD 305 is the largest of the mid-sized districts.
- The second table above displays the state and local tax revenues allocated to the three Saline County public school districts and the statewide total. These totals include budget items in addition to “per pupil formula” allocations. The organization, Schools for Fair Funding, reports that since 1992 (a different base year), the Consumer Price Index has risen 20% while the Kansas base budget per pupil has risen a total of 4.8%.
- During the 1995-2001 economic boom, the Legislature cut taxes \$3.6 billion (see Table: Estimated Impact of Tax Reductions, FY 1995-FY 2001). One of the tax cuts reduced the statewide school mill levy from 35 to 20 mills.

- During this same period, many school districts increased the local option budget (LOB) in partial compensation for the shortfall in state aid (see Table: Unified School Districts Tax Revenues, State Totals). The collective LOB taxes increased an average of 15.5% per year. The districts which raised the LOB taxation now have property tax levies that would make it difficult to absorb increases in the state levy.

Language Barrier

- Total Saline County school enrollment has changed little over the past five years (see table – Saline County Enrollment Trends); however, the number of Hispanic students (assumed to be more recent immigrants) has increased 130%. USD 305 reports that in School Year 2001-02 over 10% of students are Hispanic, an increase of 8>9% from 2000-01.
- USD 305 currently has over 230 English language learner (ELL) students. A survey of those students reports 59% believe they will graduate, equal to recent school district graduation experience for this group. 30% of ELL students' parents graduated from high school.
- Salina Head Start has 61 Hispanic students ages three to five, a 51% increase over November 2000.
- The Salina Regional Health Center reports 128, or 11% of total births, are to Hispanic mothers through October 2001.

Graduation and Post-Secondary Education

- During the 2000/01 school year, 68 students dropped out of Saline County schools, 1.5% of the 4524 students in grades 7-12. The state-wide drop out rate was 2.3%. (Kansas Department of Education, Building-level Reports, 2001)
- 78% of Saline County graduates last year are pursuing post-secondary education. The table above categorizes the status of the 2001 graduating class.
- During the fall 2001 semester, the school-to-career program had 271 job shadows, 114 speakers, 95 tours, 86 internships and 49 health occupation rotations (Salina Area Chamber of Commerce Report, January 2002).

Workforce and Underemployment

The Key Informants Survey asked respondents to rate several issues regarding the economic health of the Salina area as they relate to the workforce. The most concern was indicated for two issues that affect a person's ability to successfully gain and retain employment: availability of child care and public transportation. The third highest ranked issue under economic issues was poverty. The recently completed Behavior Risk Factors Surveillance Survey also points to the negative aspects of stress and lack of adequate child care for employees' children. These issues are discussed in other sections of this report.

Four issues directly related to employment were rated as community problems. They are, in decreasing order of concern: adequate trainable workforce, technically skilled workforce, underemployment and unemployment. These issues were also held to be

major concerns by persons working in local human service programs and by members of the Salina Area United Way Board of Directors.

About 50% of the respondents felt the availability of a trainable workforce was a moderate concern, while a quarter rated the issue as a major problem. As to the workforce possessing the necessary technical skills, the responses were evenly split between this being a major or a minor problem. There was a fair consensus that underemployment was a problem, with 59% of respondents rating this a moderate or major issue. When the survey was taken in August 2001, respondents rated unemployment as only a minor issue in the Salina area.

Indicators

Table A - Personal Income (\$1,000): Kansas and Saline County

| | 1996 | 1999 | % Growth 96-99 | % Annualized Growth |
|---------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Kansas | 60,073,698 | 70,876,368 | 18% | 5.1% |
| Saline County | 1,268,926 | 1,470,674 | 16% | 4.8% |

Source: Regional Accounts Data, 10/01, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2001

Table B - Unemployment Rate, October 2001

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| State of Kansas | 3.3% |
| Saline County | 3.9% |

Source: Kansas Labor Market Information Services, November 2001

Table C – Saline County Labor Force History
Annual Average from 1990 to 2000

| Year | Civilian Labor Force | Unemployment | Unemployment Rate |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Annual Average 1990 | 27,034 | 1,106 | 4.1 |
| Annual Average 1991 | 27,638 | 1,055 | 3.8 |
| Annual Average 1992 | 28,762 | 986 | 3.4 |
| Annual Average 1993 | 28,603 | 1,188 | 4.2 |
| Annual Average 1994 | 27,748 | 1,069 | 3.9 |
| Annual Average 1995 | 29,580 | 1,204 | 4.1 |

| Year | Civilian Labor Force | Unemployment | Unemployment Rate |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Annual Average 1996 | 29,966 | 1,166 | 3.9 |
| Annual Average 1997 | 30,178 | 1,096 | 3.6 |
| Annual Average 1998 | 30,389 | 1,055 | 3.5 |
| Annual Average 1999 | 30,904 | 762 | 2.5 |
| Annual Average 2000 | 30,570 | 863 | 2.8 |

Source: Kansas Department of Human Resources,
Labor Market Information Services, 1/2/02

Table D - Number of Establishments by Employment –size Class and Total Payroll:
Saline County

| | Total | 1-4 | 5-9 | 10-19 | 20-49 | 50-99 | 100-249 | 250-499 | 500-999 | 1000 + | Payroll \$1,000 |
|------|-------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------------|
| 1999 | 1,683 | 845 | 318 | 261 | 169 | 53 | 25 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 672,150 |
| 1997 | 1,764 | 917 | 344 | 258 | 151 | 60 | 27 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 584,169 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2000

Table E - Largest Ten Employment Sectors by Descending Order of Number of Employees, Number of Establishments, and Payroll: Saline County, 1999

| | # Employees | # Establishments | Payroll \$1,000 |
|--|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Manufacturing | 6,921 | 83 | 209,888 |
| 2. Retail Trade | 4,312 | 311 | 73,144 |
| 3. Health care & Social Services | 3,579 | 148 | 101,147 |
| 4. Accommodation, Food Services | 2,426 | 125 | 22,626 |
| 5. Construction | 1,563 | 182 | 47,787 |
| 6. Other Services (except public administration) | 1,515 | 204 | 26,218 |
| 7. Wholesale Trade | 1,435 | 106 | 42,514 |
| 8. Administration, support, etc. | 1,406 | 74 | 37,479 |
| 9. Professional, scientific, technical Services | 1,023 | 116 | 26,390 |
| 10. Finance & Insurance | 727 | 113 | 22,389 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2000

Table F - Wage and Salary Employment:
Place of Work in Saline County, November 2001

| Employment Sectors | # Employees |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| All Industries | 32,250 |
| Goods Producing Industries | 8,450 |
| Manufacturing | 6,700 |
| Mining | 25 |
| Construction | 1,725 |
| Service Producing Industries | 23,800 |
| Transportation | 1,725 |
| Trade Total | 8,850 |
| Wholesale Trade | 1,675 |
| Retail Trade | 7,175 |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate | 1,075 |
| Services | 8,075 |
| Government | 4,075 |
| Farm Employment | 475 |

Source: Kansas Department of Human Resources,
Labor Market Information Services, 12/14/01

Findings

- Personal income (Table A) in Saline County grew 16% between 1996 and 1999 (the latest reported year), slightly less than the state-wide growth, but averaged 5% per year. Persons in the labor force grew 3.4%, resulting in an increase in per capita personal income.
- In October 2001, the Saline County unemployment rate (Table B) was 3.3%; state-wide it was 3.9%. Table C shows the 1990 to 2000 history of total county employment and unemployment.
- In 1999 the Saline County median family household income was \$33,711 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999).
- Between the reporting years 1997 and 1999, the total payroll in Saline County increased \$88 million, or 15%. There was a decrease of 81 establishments during the period (Table D). The number of businesses with less than ten employees decreased 98. There were 14 more businesses in the 10-99 employee range. Traditionally, businesses with less than 10 employees create the majority of new jobs.
- Manufacturing accounted for 30% of the Saline County payroll in 1999 and employed one quarter of the county workforce (Table E).
- Table E also shows that the second through seventh largest employment sectors - encompassing trade, services and construction – employ half of the total workforce and provides almost half the total payroll. These sectors are most dependent on local and regional economic conditions.
- Table F shows the latest figures on employment by sector in Saline County.

Workforce 2020 Research

The Salina Regional One-Stop Partnership, under the auspices of the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce, participated in an employer survey of six communities – Salina, KS; Brockton, MA; Cleveland, OH; Enterprise, AL; Kalispell, MT; and Tucson, AZ. Responses were gathered from approximately 300 employers, across fourteen industry sectors, in each community during April and May 2001. The survey was nationally sponsored by the Center for Workforce Preparation, an affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and reported in September 2001. The Salina Regional One-Stop Partnership has since updated some of the data. The following tables present some of the findings for Salina and a compilation of the six communities.

Survey Profile

| Number of Employees | Salina | All Six |
|---------------------|--------|---------|
| 10 or less | 44.8% | 52.3% |
| 11-50 | 41.9 | 30.8 |
| 51 or more | 13.2 | 6.2 |

Critical Components to Competitiveness

| Component | Salina | All |
|--------------------------------------|--------|------|
| Well trained staff | 37% | 49% |
| Retaining staff | 32 | 18.5 |
| Econ. Dev. & Job Creation | 15 | 20 |
| Ability to recruit qualified workers | 14 | 16.5 |

- While finding and hiring qualified employees is a critical issue for employers, it ranks last in the four key factors in remaining competitive. As the above table indicates, having a “well-trained staff” ranks number one. Second in importance is the ability to retain existing employees.
- Respondent employers are using traditional workforce recruitment channels including employee referrals, newspaper ads and walk-ins most frequently. The use of employee referrals is positive. Satisfied employees are highly likely to want other qualified and complementary co-workers at their place of work. Recruitment through job fairs, community social service agencies and career centers are much less used. However, there is much potential here and Salina now has an operational one-stop career center and has recently conducted a job fair for a potential large employer.

Current Recruitment Techniques: Six Most Used

| Techniques Used | Salina | All |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-----|
| Employee Referrals | 59% | 49% |
| Newspaper Ads | 59 | 46 |
| Walk ins | 49 | 35 |
| Community Colleges/Temp. Services | 24 | 17 |
| Colleges | 23 | 15 |
| Competitors | 22 | 15 |
| | | |
| Job Fairs | 11 | 11 |
| Community -Based Org. | 8 | 10 |
| One-Stop Career Centers | 5 | 5 |

- The Salina One-Stop Partnership reports that over 500 Salina area businesses are participating in the USD 305 School-to-Career program by providing internships to students.

Employers' Impressions about the Applicant Pool
Challenges regarding the recruitment of qualified workers

| | Salina | All |
|------------------------------------|--------|-----|
| Cited applicants have poor skills | 36% | 34% |
| Cited applicants have wrong skills | 31 | 30 |
| Cited applicants have no skills | 18 | 14 |

- Adding to employer and potential employee problems is the necessary match of skills to available jobs. Based on their hiring experiences, 34% of employers (36% in Salina) report that the applicants they see have poor employment skills; another 30+% see applicants that have the wrong skills for the job openings.

Willingness to Hire Welfare Recipients

| | Salina | All |
|--|--------|-----|
| Have hired a welfare recipient in last 3 years | 20% | 22% |
| Larger companies | 40 | 44 |
| Smaller companies | 10 | 10 |
| Willing to hire a welfare recipient | 88 | 50 |

- Employers were also asked whether they are actively recruiting individuals who are welfare participants. Relatively few of the employers in the survey have hired anyone who has transitioned off welfare in the past three years. Those employers that have are mostly the larger businesses.
- As the table shows, half of all the respondents are willing to hire a welfare recipient, with Salina businesses much more likely than average. It should also be assumed that the successful welfare recipients would need to have a minimum level of essential “employability” attributes.

Why Employees Leave: Most and Least Mentioned

| Reasons for Leaving | Salina | All |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----|
| Other job opportunity | 50% | 41% |
| Better pay/compensation | 47 | 36 |
| Moved from area | 30 | 27 |
| | | |
| Benefits (not medical) | 10 | 6 |
| Insufficient medical coverage | 7 | 4 |
| Retirement | 8 | 6 |
| Child care | 8 | 6 |
| Transportation | 5 | 5 |
| Other dependent care | 2 | 2 |
| Housing problems | 2 | 1 |

- Retaining quality employees is of critical importance to employers for a wide variety of reasons, not the least of which is the cost burden faced by employers each time a worker leaves. Estimates regarding the actual cost of turnover range from 33% to 250% of the employee’s base salary. Examples from a wide range of employers over the past few years yield turnover cost estimates between \$5,000 and \$15,000 for entry-level call-center employees. (Keeping Competitive, Center for Workforce Preparation, September 2001)
- Entry-level to moderate wage employees may have little savings to tide them over between jobs, thus causing hardships such as loss or down-grading of housing, unpaid utility bills, missed car payments and forgone medical care.
- The survey also found that many employers do not conduct exit interviews with employees who leave and are often only aware of the positive turnover reasons as reported in the first three reasons for leaving in the table above. The Keeping Competitive report states, “an overwhelming number of surveys and studies conducted recently clearly indicate these are not the primary reasons people leave their jobs.” The lower response rates in the lower part of the table may be much more important causes for leaving, but go unreported to the employer.

Absenteeism

The 2000-01 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) (see full report, Health Risk Behavior of Saline County, 2000-2001 for further detail and discussion) reports on Saline County’s health-related absenteeism, defined as the percent of respondents reporting being absent from work six or more days during the past year for any reason.

- Among those respondents employed during the past year, the most common reason reported for being absent from work was having a bug, virus, cold, flu, or bronchitis (37%). Illness of a family member (19%) was the second most commonly reported reason.
- 17% of respondents employed during the past year were absent from work at least one day due to the illness of an adult other than themselves. Nearly two-thirds (64%)

were absent at least one day due to the illness of a child. Half of employed respondents with children did not have a place to leave their child when sick, and one in five missed work at least one day because they could not find child care.

- 59% of Saline County employed respondents missed at least one day of work during the past year, and 18% were absent six or more days (absenteeism).

Public Transportation

Availability of transportation was the second most important economic issue, after child care, to Key Informant Survey respondents. Respondents obviously see the lack of transportation as a barrier to employment. Public transportation is also a requisite for many disabled and elderly to access medical, shopping and social services. The survey results show an even division between transportation as a moderate (37%) or major (40%) issue. The median designates moderate; the mode major. Taken together, 77% of respondents believe availability of transportation is an important community issue.

Subsequent interviews have further substantiated how wide spread is the problem of the lack of a reliable personal vehicle for lower income workers, especially those transitioning from welfare and homelessness to the workforce. Also, human service agencies, including those providing or subsidizing public transportation, report a growing need for more door-to-door transportation in the Salina community, especially for the elderly and disabled.

Indicators

General Public Ridership: Average rides per month Saline County, 1999-2001

| Provider/Funder | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Commission on Aging Taxi Rides | 1,750 | 1,880 | 1,800 |
| Hotline Taxi Voucher | 680 | 710 | 1,080 |
| OCCK, Inc. | 3,230 | 2,530 | 3,180 |
| Total Rides per Month | 5,660 | 5,120 | 6,060 |

Source: Saline County Commission on Aging, 2001

Public Transportation Providers and Funding: Saline County, Year 2000

| Source | Hotline - Taxi Voucher | OCCK, Inc. | Commsn. on Aging | SRHC | Volunteer Connection | CKMHC | TOTAL |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Federal/State | \$16,726 | \$441,812 | \$25,050 | | \$3,278 | \$300 | \$470,440 |
| Saline County | | | 15,856 | | 84 | | 15,940 |
| City of Salina | 13,000 | | 12,000 | | | | 25,000 |
| SRHC | 14,535 | | | \$16,343 | | | 30,878 |
| United Way | 5,000 | | | | 1,097 | | 6,097 |
| Rider Fees | 3,460 | 89,435 | 3,533 | | | 3,030 | 99,458 |
| Total Funding | \$52,721 | \$531,247 | \$56,440 | \$16,343 | \$4,459 | \$3,330 | \$664,540 |

Source: Saline County Commission on Aging, 2001

General Public Trip Purpose Summary
Saline County, Year 2000

| Purpose | Hotline | OCCK, Inc. | Commission on Aging | Total Trips | % of All Trips |
|-----------------|---------|------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Medical/Health | 7,523 | 22,992 | 4,540 | 35,055 | 30% |
| Food/Nutrition | | | 8,056* | 8,056 | 7 |
| Shopping | | 1,239 | 9,818 | 11,057 | 9 |
| Employment | | 51,527 | | 51,527 | 44 |
| Social Services | 1,973 | 3,411 | | 5,384 | 5 |
| Other | | 6,404 | | 6,404 | 5 |
| TOTAL | 9,496 | 85,573 | 22,414 | 117,483 | 100% |

* Shopping and Senior Center trips

Source: Saline County Commission on Aging, 2001

Findings

- Most public transportation in the Salina area is open to the general public. The service is door-to-door and is restrictive to purpose or limited by capacity.
- As of September 2001, approximately 6,060 rides were provided per month through the three general public programs (see General Public Ridership table). The two taxi subsidy programs restrict the trip purpose. OCCK, Inc. has no purpose restriction; however, the majority of riders are OCCK, Inc. persons with disabilities.
 - Salina Taxi Voucher Service is managed by Hotline, providing vouchers for \$1.00 taxi rides to medical/health and social services.
 - Saline County Commission on Aging provides a \$2.00 discount off regular taxi fares for rides to medical/health, food/nutrition, and shopping, with no age or income qualification. Most users are elderly.
 - OCCK, Inc. provides door-to-door, lift-equipped bus service to the general public, for \$2.00 a ride. The service operates from 6am to 10pm weekdays and 9am to 10pm weekends.
- Taxi service costs, on average, \$6-7 per trip.
- The Salina Regional Health Center (SRHC), the Volunteer Connection and the Central Kansas Mental Health Center (CKMHC) provide transportation to patients and program participants.
- Public transportation service in 2000 cost \$664,540 (see Public Transportation Providers and Funding table). Approximately 70% of this cost is funded by federal and state programs, 18% by riders and 12% by local sources.
- The General Purpose Trip Summary table shows that, of the 127,415 rides, 30% were for medical and health reasons. However, those 35,055 trips were 53% of non-employment rides.
- OCCK, Inc. is the only provider of public transportation to employment. Two-thirds of its ridership is persons with disabilities.
- All three general public providers report that demand for service is growing.

Housing

The Key Informants rated three housing issues, other than short term shelter which is discussed in this report section on Homelessness: availability of affordable rental housing, availability of affordable homes (owner occupied) and substandard housing.

On the issue of availability of affordable rental housing the respondents almost evenly divided between this being a moderate or a major concern. However, the portion of the respondents that are concerned at the moderate or major level is vastly larger (79.1%) than the remaining portion. This issue is obviously of concern to the community.

The mean, median and mode place concern about the availability of affordable homes at the moderate level. While moderate is the majority response (38.2%), 35.5% of respondents rated it a major issue. The sum of these two categories indicates that the availability of affordable homes is a clear concern of the community.

The majority of the respondents consider substandard housing to be a moderate concern. The next largest portion of the respondents considers this issue of minor concern. Those two levels together produce a strong majority of the respondents. The community does not consider substandard housing a major concern.

There is an overall consensus that housing issues are more than a minor concern.

Indicators

Household by Age of Householder: Saline County 2000

| Householder Age | # Households |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 15 to 24 | 1,452 |
| 25 to 34 | 3,559 |
| 35 to 44 | 4,659 |
| 45 to 54 | 4,148 |
| 55 to 64 | 2,764 |
| 65 to 74 | 2,416 |
| 75 to 84 | 1,868 |
| 85 and over | 570 |

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Tenure by Household Size: Occupied Housing Units
Saline County 2000

| Household Size | Total # | Total % | # Owner Occupied | % Owner Occupied | # Renter Occupied | % Renter Occupied |
|------------------|---------|---------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Total | 21,436 | 100.0 | 14,799 | 69.0 | 6,637 | 31.0 |
| 1- Person | 6,075 | 28.3 | 3,261 | 53.7 | 2,814 | 46.3 |
| 2- Person | 7,483 | 34.9 | 5,770 | 77.1 | 1,713 | 22.9 |
| 3- Person | 3,194 | 14.9 | 2,245 | 70.3 | 949 | 29.7 |
| 4- Person | 2,792 | 13.0 | 2,133 | 76.4 | 659 | 23.6 |
| 5- Person | 1,322 | 6.2 | 995 | 75.3 | 327 | 24.7 |
| 6- Person | 389 | 1.8 | 267 | 68.6 | 122 | 31.4 |
| 7 or more Person | 181 | 0.8 | 128 | 70.7 | 53 | 29.3 |

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Housing Availability: Saline County 2000

| | Total Units | Occupied Units | Vacant Housing Units | | | | Vacancy Rate | |
|--------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|--------|
| | | | Total | % for Sale | % for Rent | % Seasonal etc. | Home Owner | Rental |
| Saline | 22,695 | 21,436 | 1,259 | 18.7 | 42.3 | 5.3 | 1.6 | 7.4 |
| Kansas | 1,131,200 | | | 15.9 | 33.2 | 10.3 | 2.0 | 8.8 |

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Permitted Dwelling Units: 1990-2001
City of Salina

| Year | Single Family | Duplex Townhouse | Triplex Fourplex | Multi Family | Total Units |
|------|---------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1990 | 80 | 11 | 0 | 77 | 168 |
| 1991 | 77 | 14 | 0 | | 91 |
| 1992 | 127 | 2 | 0 | 24 | 153 |
| 1993 | 156 | 0 | 0 | | 156 |
| 1994 | 125 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 158 |
| 1995 | 135 | 0 | 0 | | 135 |
| 1996 | 105 | 40 | 0 | 189 | 344 |
| 1997 | 87 | 28 | 0 | | 123 |
| 1998 | 80 | 36 | 0 | 158 | 274 |
| 1999 | 82 | 28 | 0 | 6 | 116 |
| 2000 | 123 | 0 | 0 | | 123 |
| 2001 | 95 | 0 | 8 | 64 | 167 |

Source: City of Salina and U.S. Census Bureau

2000 Household Income by Percent of Total Households
Salina, 3 Mile Radii from Iron Avenue and Santa Fe*

| Household Income | 3 miles | Salina |
|----------------------|----------|----------|
| \$100,000 or More | 6.9% | |
| \$75,000 to \$99,999 | 6.9 | |
| \$50,000 to \$74,999 | 19.9 | |
| \$35,000 to \$49,999 | 18.0 | |
| \$25,000 to \$34,999 | 15.1 | |
| Less than \$25,000 | 33.1 | |
| Median | \$36,512 | \$38,573 |
| Per Capita Income | \$21,714 | \$21,714 |

* Basically north of Magnolia Road

Source: 2000 Maps to Go and 2000 U.S. Census

Percent Home Sales by Sales Price

| Price Ranges | 1999 | | 2001 | |
|---------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| | Units | Percent | Units | Percent |
| <\$60,000 | 530 | 29.61 | 611 | 22.88 |
| \$60-119,999 | 794 | 44.36 | 1,165 | 43.62 |
| \$120-249,999 | 418 | 23.34 | 804 | 30.10 |
| \$250,000+ | 48 | 2.68 | 91 | 3.41 |
| Totals | 1,790 | 100.00 | 2,671 | 100.00 |

Source: Salina Board of Realtors, 2001

Findings

- In interviews staff of the Housing Authority, City Neighborhood Services Department and Board of Realtors state the hardest housing demand to fill is homes with one or two bedrooms. This market demographic includes younger residents wishing to enter the housing market for the first time and the elderly and disabled. The data in the table above showing household size bears this out. One quarter of households are under 34 years of age and another quarter are 65 and older. Almost two-thirds of households contained 1 or 2 persons in 2000.
- 69% of households are home owners (Table: Tenure by Household Size). Coincidentally, the percent of 1 and 2 person households is the same as the percent of 1 and 2 person households that rent.
- The table Housing Availability shows a Year 2000 vacancy rate of 1.6% for owner occupied houses which is below the state average and very low by industry standards. It is also much below the rental market vacancy rate.
- From 1990 through 2001, 1,990 dwelling unit building permits were issued in the City of Salina: 1,272 single family, 718 multifamily (Table: Permitted Dwelling Units). The number of households increased 1,596 during that period (U.S. Census

Bureau). As many as 80 housing units are demolished each year. The net increase in housing units is not keeping pace with the growth in households.

- A cash down payment of \$2,893 (3%) on an “average priced home” (\$96,408), would require a monthly payment of \$891. If that payment represents 25% of household income, total household income would need to exceed \$40,000/year. The table Household Tenure shows half of Saline County homes have less than that annual income.
- Locally, a low to moderate income house is commonly defined as one costing \$60,000 or less. At \$60,000, the required cash down payment would be \$1,800, with a monthly payment of \$525 (\$6,300/year). If the payment represents 25% of household income, total household income would need to exceed \$25,000/year. The table 2000 Household Income shows that 33% of Saline County households have less than this income.
- In 1999, three-quarter of homes sold for less than \$120,000, with almost 30% selling for under \$60,000. Possibly due to inflation, these price categories totaled 66% and 23%, respectively, in 2001; but 34% (452) more units sold under \$120,000 in 2001.
- In 2001 the average sale price for a residential property was \$96,408. Houses selling for less than \$100,000 were 59% of the total sales (Salina Board of Realtors).
- The Salina Board of Realtors records show 12% (1 in 8) of the entire housing stock of homes were sold in 2001. 40% of the homes sold were on the market 60 days or less, 63% 90 days or less. This indicates relative high demand which accounts for much of the higher housing costs seen both in sales and rents.
- Rental properties participating in the state sponsored Home program have the following market rent limits for Saline County, which can be used to represent the local market:

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <u>Efficiency</u> | <u>1 Bdrm</u> | <u>2 Bdrm</u> | <u>3 Bdrm</u> | <u>4 Bdrm</u> |
| \$356 | \$368 | \$485 | \$635 | \$678 |

- Homebuilders interviewed report a modest 3 bedroom, 2 bath new home of 1,200 square feet costs \$125,000: \$10-11,000 for the lot; \$115,000 for construction with an unfinished basement.
- An applicant for the City of Salina’s home rehabilitation program must own the home and have a gross income not exceeding 80% of median household income for the Salina area. In 2001, this can range from 1 person household = \$27,000, 4 person = \$39,000 to 8 person = \$51,650. Year 2000 median family income was \$38,573.
- Given the largest portion of the Salina housing stock being older than 50 years, rehabilitation is becoming more a common way to bring both rental and owner occupied housing to the market.
- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides limited HOME program soft loans through the City of Salina. Up to \$25,000 per unit is allowed for major rehabilitation of homeowner-occupied homes located in the oldest part of town. A separate line item from the City of Salina budget funds soft loans for repairs of up to \$6,000 per unit to income-qualified homeowners in all parts of the city. Prior to 2001, the City of Salina sponsored 179 dwelling rehabilitations and 253 minor or emergency repairs.

IV. PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY

Community Issues

Childhood Development

Child Care
Early Childhood Development

Self-Sufficiency

Independent Living
Homelessness and Poor
Teen Pregnancy

Childhood Development

- Child care was ranked by key informants as the second most important community issue. The related issue of early childhood development (birth to kindergarten) was also evident from the survey and found to be important from the subsequent interviews and literature research. Development during the first three years is dramatic, rapid, and important. It lays the foundation for later cognitive accomplishments, social skills, self-esteem and respect for others.

Child Care

Indicators

Saline County Census and Child Care Service
Years of Age

| | <1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 0-4 | 5-9 |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-------|-------|
| 2000 Census # | 714 | 795 | 770 | 695 | 739 | | 3,713 | 3,871 |
| % Total Population | | | | | | | 6.9% | 7.2% |
| 2000 Child care enrollment | 126 | 249 | 223 | ---- | 931 | ---- | 1,529 | |
| YWCA/YMCA 2001 referral calls | 209 | 67 | 110 | ---- | 209 | ---- | 595 | 242 |

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral Center, October 2001

Child Care Referrals

| |
|---|
| Referral calls for Centers: 137 |
| Referral calls for Family Child Care: 832 |

Source: YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral Center, October 2001

YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral Center
Service Statistics

| <u>For Centers (day only)</u> | Total | Average | Average | Full-time | Child |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Providers</u> | <u>Capacity</u> | <u>Vacancies</u> | <u>Ave. \$/Week</u> | <u>Category</u> |
| 0-11 months | 2 | 7.0 | 0.5 | \$96.50 | Infant |
| 12-17 | 4 | 6.3 | 0.5 | 88.25 | Toddler |
| 18-29 | 4 | 12.5 | 7.8 | 88.25 | Toddler |
| 30-K | 8 | 35.4 | 10.9 | 80.94 | |
| K+ | 4 | 17.5 | 7.0 | 69.33 | |
| <u>Family Child Care</u> | | | | | |
| 0-17 Day | 155 | 1.6 | 0.5 | \$83.84 | \$60.00 |
| 0-17 Night | 18 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 81.85 | 67.50 |
| 18-K Day | 182 | 4.8 | 1.3 | 78.16 | 25.00 |
| 18-K Night | 23 | 2.9 | 1.7 | 78.36 | 67.50 |
| K+ Day | 153 | 3.2 | 1.2 | 71.97 | 20.00 |
| K+ Night | 23 | 2.7 | 1.6 | 74.84 | 50.00 |

Source: YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral Center, October 2001

Study Findings

In Kansas:

- 73% of children under age 5 parents both work outside the home in the state of Kansas. (Kansas Center for Community Economic Development, Policy Research Institute, University of Kansas)
- 15.4% (1997) children live in families in poverty (U.S. Census Bureau reports, 2000)
- 45% of children under age one attend an early care and education program. 78% and 4% of four and five year olds, respectively, attend. (Kansas Center for Community Economic Development, Policy Research Institute, University of Kansas)
- 43% of children with a stay-at-home parent attend an early care and education program regularly. (Kansas Center for Community Economic Development, Policy Research Institute, University of Kansas)
- Now most mothers combine care giving and employment. 61% of mothers with children under age three were employed in 2000, compared with just 34% in 1975. (Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies)
- The use of child care centers as a source of care for children under age three has nearly tripled since 1977 (Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies).

In Saline County:

- The 2000-01 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) (see full report, Health Risk Behavior of Saline County, 2000-2001 for further detail and

discussion) reports that nearly two-thirds (64%) of children in the survey aged 0 to 4 years regularly spent at least part of their week in a day care center, day care home, or pre school, with 25% spending the equivalent of four days or more in a pre school or out-of-home child care.

- 34% of children reported in the BRFSS currently in school were unsupervised after school one or more days during the past week. Not surprisingly, reported percentages increased with increasing age of the child. Only 6% went to some type of child care.
- According to 2000 Census, more than 16% of children in Saline County are in families with incomes that meet federal definition of poverty. Therefore, about 570 children up to 5 years old are living in poverty. About 15% of all children in the County received some kind of economic aid from the State, whether food stamps, medical assistance or cash (U.S. Census Bureau reports, 2000). In Saline County schools, 46% or 3,077 students receive free or reduced price lunches (Kansas Department of Education, school district reports).
- Affordable, full-day child care is one of the most persistent barriers to low-income parents who want to work or go back to work (U.S. Census Bureau reports, 2000):

| | |
|--|-------|
| Married couples with child <6: | 1,202 |
| Male householder, with no spouse, with child <6: | 165 |
| Female householder, with no spouse, with child <6: | 401 |

- A serious institutional problem in child care is the high turnover rate in care giving personnel. However, the turnover rate has dropped from 134% in 2000 to 39% in 2001 due to CAPS Smart Start Initiative using wage bonuses and scholarships for early childhood education courses for care giving personnel.
- Low pay for child care workers continues to be a stumbling block for recruiting quality workers. Beginning child care teachers earn approximately \$8/hour with a bachelor degree. Public schools pay \$17/hour. Most child care providers do not offer health insurance.
- The number of child care providers has fallen significantly (Kansas Center for Community Economic Development, Policy Research Institute, University of Kansas and YMCA Resource and Referral Center):

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1993: 346 | 2000: 259 |
|-----------|-----------|
- Reliable infant care is a serious problem for parents needing to enter/reenter the work place. Children less than 2.5 years of age reduce a provider's total permissible head count and so are viewed as economic liabilities by many who care for children full time. Those that accept infants and toddlers charge appreciably more. Licensing is very strict in Kansas. Only two local centers accept these very young children.
- Night time (2nd and 3rd shift) and weekend registered/licensed child care is more difficult to obtain (refer to table above). The cost is often twice the day time fee. YMCA referral calls thru October 2001:

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 2 nd shift: 168 | 3 rd shift: 32 | Weekend: 168 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
- Most child care providers will not allow a sick child to stay. This puts a serious strain on families with no stay-at-home parent or other care giver.

- Increasing numbers of children with mental problems are attending child care. This heightens the stress level for both the other children and staff. Other parents may leave that provider.
- Kansas offers a special tax credit to employers that help pay for child care or that set up in-house child care facilities. There is no evidence that any employers in Saline County are currently offering child care or financial assistance to make child care more affordable.

Early Childhood Development

Salina area human service agencies report that too few parents are aware of the importance of home and educational activities that help develop the brain and provide social integration, with the growing Hispanic immigrant community the least well informed and served. The common denominator in early childhood development is the informed parent accessing local high quality resources and programs.

Indicators

Live Births by Residence per 1,000 Population

| | 1995 # | 1995 Rate | 1996 # | 1996 Rate | 1997 # | 1997 Rate | 1998 # | 1998 Rate | 1999 # | 1999 Rate | 5-yr Rate |
|------------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Kansas | | 14.5 | | 14.2 | | 14.3 | | 14.6 | | 14.6 | 14.4 |
| Saline Co. | 769 | 14.8 | 710 | 13.7 | 695 | 13.5 | 813 | 15.8 | 705 | 13.7 | 14.3 |

Source: Kansas Department of Health and Environment, vital statistics

Healthy Start Home Visitation, Monthly Average

| | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Prenatal | 17 | 33 | 10 | 6 | 10 | 13 | 10 |
| Postnatal | 83 | 114 | 33 | 36 | 29 | 39 | 38 |

Source: Salina/Saline County Health Department, monthly statistics

Findings

- The infant death rate (deaths per 1000 live births) was 7.9 (29 infants) between 1993 and 1997 (Kansas Department of Health and Environment, vital statistics). This was similar to the State rate. In 1997, the State and Saline County experienced rates of 7.4 and 7.2, respectively. While these are higher than the national rate of 7.2 per 1000, the trend is positive for both State and County.
- In 1999, according to Kansas Kids Count 2001 (Kansas Action for Children, Inc. and University of Kansas, School of Social Welfare), 76.6% of Saline County kindergarteners had been immunized by age two. This is better than the state average. By regulation, all students must be properly immunized to enter school. USD 305 reports that this is a substantial problem with recent immigrant children.
- Salina/Saline County Health Department conducts home visitations by the Healthy Start program (see table above) in which a nurse visits mothers and their

- infants regularly to counsel and intervene in pre and post natal health and care problems.
- Heartland Healthy Families is a collaboration between Early Head Start and the Salina/Saline County Health Department. In 2000, the program which provides parenting and health case management served 161 children of "overburdened" families in which the mother was pregnant and/or the target child was less than three years old.
 - The Success by Six program, recently initiated in the Salina area, focuses on three strategies:
 1. Quality parenting education
 2. Disease and injury prevention, especially dental care
 3. Access to quality child care
 - It is the experience of USD 305 that students in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program are very limited in their English abilities regardless of preschool education and most of their parents are non-English speaking as well. (USD 305 ESL Coordinator)
 - In USD 305, survival language was taught in 2001 to 44 kindergarten and 52 first grade students.
 - There are 242 ESL students in USD 305 as of November 2001.
 - Only two grade schools have interpreter services available to parents, children and teachers 16 hours per week.
 - Heartland Programs (Salina Head Start) in November 2001 had 61 Hispanic students ages 3-5 (an increase of 31 over 2000) and 15 ages 0-3.
 - USD 305 reports in 2001 that all incoming non-English speaking Hispanic kindergarteners continue to score in the lowest composite zone on the First Step Kindergarten Readiness Test indicating the child needs intense assistance to become successful regardless of obvious intelligence indicators.

Organizations/Associations Resources

- Child Care and Work Task Force
- YMCA Resource and Referral Center
- Heartland Early Education Program
- CAPS Smart Start Program
- Success by Six Program Leadership Committee and subcommittees, Salina Area United Way
- Parents as Teachers
- Catholic Charities
- Salina Cares Health Clinic
- Salina Regional Health Center
- Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Self-Sufficiency

Those members of the community with significant challenges to being self-sufficient may be divided into three groups. The first group, the elderly, physically disabled and

mentally impaired, desires to live in their own homes – live independently - as long as possible. These persons require varying levels of community provided services and financial assistance to make this practical. The second group consists of individuals and families who lack the income, job skills, and/or life skills to be self-sufficient without some community assistance, but may have the potential to develop self-sufficiency. These persons are often categorized as the homeless and poor. The third group is teenage mothers and their children.

Independent Living

The subject of independent living for this study covers concerns about the particular needs of the elderly for housing, transportation and assistance in maintaining a home. Elderly is generally defined as age 65 and older, but some statistical reports use 60 and over. The Key Informant Survey specifically asked respondents to rank the seriousness of the issue, “community resources available to meet the needs of elderly”. 70% rated this a moderate or major issue, but the issue did not rank as one of the most important issues. The demographic, household and poverty data presented below do point to the large and growing size of this demographic group and their growing impact on the need for housing and support services.

Persons with disabilities, other than the elderly, face many of the same challenges in successfully living independently and, therefore, findings about the elderly can often apply to the disabled. However, there is little current demographic and economic data to differentiate this group. The Key Informant Survey question in regard to the disabled was about “access” and does not directly relate to issues concerning independent living.

The 2000-01 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) (see full report, [Health Risk Behavior of Saline County, 2000-2001](#) for further detail and discussion) reports that 13% of the total Saline County population has activity limitations affecting their daily lives.

The closely related issue of public transportation rated as a major problem and ranked fifth in overall importance. Housing affordability and availability of rental housing both rated as moderate to serious problems. Taken together, housing issues were mentioned by 30% of the respondents, 17 times as the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd most important community issue. These issues are directly addressed in another section of this report.

Increases in life expectancy, together with improvements in major disease rates and medical interventions, offer the promise of longer and healthier lives for the elderly. The availability of housing becomes more of a problem when vacancy rates are low and housing is expensive. Unaffordable housing is defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as housing where renters pay more than 30% of their income on rent. A \$400 per month rent, by this standard, would require a \$16,000 annual family income.

However, a proportion of the population suffers from disabilities or frailty which affects their housing requirements to a significant degree, forcing them to live near medical facilities, live in specially designed homes, receive in-home support services, or live in congregate housing. In-home support services such as chore and maintenance assistance and public transportation can make it possible for the disabled and frail to maintain their own home – live independently.

Indicators

U.S. Census: 1990-2000 Population

| | 1990 Total | 2000 Total | % change | 2000 Male | 2000 Female |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------------|
| 65 years and over | 6,962 | 7,480 | +7.5 | 3,029 | 4,451 |
| 75 years and over | 3,136 | 3,662 | +16.8 | 1,317 | 2,345 |
| 85 years and over | 839 | 966 | +15.1 | 243 | 723 |

Household Type by Age of Householder: Number of households 2000 U.S. Census

| Householder Age | Family Household | Non-family Household* |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 65 and over | 2,496 | 2,358 |
| 65-84 | 2,336 | 1,948 |
| 85 and over | 160 | 410 |

* Unrelated individual (s)

Population 65 year and over by Housing Type: Persons 2000 U.S. Census

| | Persons | % |
|----------------------------|---------|----|
| Group Quarters | 529 | |
| Population in households | 6,951 | |
| Family (2 or more persons) | 4,544 | |
| Living alone | 2,296 | 33 |
| Male | 488 | 20 |
| Female | 1,846 | 80 |
| Other non households | 111 | |

Tenure by Household Type: Occupied housing units 2000 U.S. Census

| | Owner Occupied | Renter Occupied | % Renter Occupied |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Families | 2,288 | 208 | 8.3 |
| Living alone | 1,529 | 767 | 33.4 |
| Male | 328 | 160 | 32.9 |
| Female | 1,201 | 607 | 33.6 |

Findings

- The elderly population of Saline County has been growing, experiencing a 7.5% growth rate between 1990 and 2000.
- An increasing number of elderly are in the oldest age groups, leading to a greater need for help with daily living. Those 75 and over are currently 6.8% of the total Saline County population (2000 U.S. Census), which is 50% of those 65 years and older. Those 85 and over are currently 1.8% of the total population, which is 13% of those 65 years and older.
- The population 75 years and over continues to be one of the fastest growing segments of the entire Saline County population, increasing almost 17 % in the last ten years. The 85 and older population has increased 15% in ten years. Only the 10-19 year old population group has increased faster.
- The substantial growth rate of the 85+ age group has significant implications for the types of services needed and the manner in which they are delivered. The challenge to Saline County senior service providers will be to develop and sustain a continuum of care which will address the various levels of client need.
- Of the 6,951 persons 65 and older who live in households (not group quarters), 33% (2,296) are living alone. Four out of five of those living alone are women.
- 13% of respondents to the 2001 BRFSS report an activity limitation due to an impairment or health problem. This is similar to the 12% observed statewide in 1999. The three top problems (52% of respondents with impairment) were conditions of the back or neck, arthritis/rheumatism and heart conditions. Not surprisingly, activity limitation increased with age: 15% for the 55-64 age group; 25% for 65 to 74; and 30% for those 75 and older.
- 21% of BRFSS respondents reported having one or more days in the past month where pain limited their usual activities, such as self-care, work or recreation, which is exactly the same as the percentage reported statewide in 1999. Females were at a higher risk than males (26% to 16%) and risk for limiting pain was highest among those 65 and older: 65-74 = 31%, 75 and older = 39%. Risk for pain limiting usual activity was over 2 ½ times that for the general population for those reporting an activity limitation.
- The Saline County Commission on Aging has identified chore and maintenance assistance as a significant unmet need of the elderly.
- The growth of the older segment of the population has substantial ramifications for the housing market. There is more demand for one and two bedroom dwellings, smaller floor area and yard size for easier maintenance, ease of physical access, and proximity to community services.
- The Salina Housing Authority reports greatest demand for housing is one bedroom units. Their waiting list has been closed since September 1998. This is the greatest need for elderly and disabled who do not need assisted-living. The Authority last bought or built one bedroom units in 1995.
- Since 1990, 186 dwelling units specifically dedicated to the elderly have been built or are under construction.
- OCCK, Inc. owns 24 housing units for persons with disabilities. They are always fully occupied.

- Over 90% of families with a 65 years or older head of household own their home while two-thirds of those living alone are home owners. Of those living alone, women are as likely as men to reside in a dwelling they own.
- The Saline County Commission on Aging discount taxi ride program provided 22,414 rides during 2000. 73% of these rides were for persons age 60 and older. This volume has risen steadily since 1996. 4,540 of those trips have been for medical reasons. The remainder is almost equally divided between shopping and senior center visits for the meal program.
- OCCK, Inc. is currently the only lift-equipped, door-to-door public transportation provider.
- OCCK, Inc. reports that the most important issue for the disabled wishing to live independently is the provision and training for specialized equipment and direct support activities to maintain the home.

Homeless and Poor

Review of the Key Informant Survey and recent studies and assessments place the issue of self-sufficiency as an important community issue. While no definitive set of statistics is available to measure whether an individual or family is self-sufficient, four issues from the Key Informant Survey are closely related. The respondents considered underemployment a major issue, with 69% rating it a moderate or major problem for the community. Over 75% of respondents indicated the needs of the poor, the lack of affordable rental housing, and the need for short term shelter were moderate to major concerns. When asked to rate the impact of all the issues on particular economic and demographic groups, the poor were thought to be most seriously affected.

Indicators

Temporary Shelter: Annual average occupancy in shelter

| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|
| # Persons sheltered | 182 | 167 | 138 |
| Ashby House | 110 | 80 | 60 |
| Rescue Mission | 72 | 87 | 78 |
| # Nights of shelter (annualized) | | | |
| Ashby House | 1107 | 1180 | 1444 |
| Rescue Mission | 2612 | 4061 | 3159 |

Source: Welfare Reform Study, December 2001, Salina Area United Way

Poverty Guidelines, State of Kansas: based on household income

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Family of 1: \$ 8,590 | Family of 5: \$20,670 |
| Family of 2: 11,610 | Family of 6: 23,690 |
| Family of 3: 14,630 | Family of 7: 26,710 |
| Family of 4: 17,650 | Family of 8: 29,730 |

Source: Salina Journal, November 19, 2001

Low Income Indicators

| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| # Families participating in TAF/AFDC | 275 | 240 | 268 |
| # Households receiving food stamps | 678 | 690 | 1,914 |
| # Households receiving food directly | 1,800 | 2,282 | 2,679 |
| # Individuals served meals | 16,113 | 10,836 | 12,105 |
| # Meals served | 23,174 | 18,093 | 20,783 |
| # Participants in WIC* | 1,262 | 1,269 | 1,344 |
| # Students receiving free or reduced lunches | 3,434 | 3,504 | 3,456 |
| % of total enrollment | 36% | 39% | 38% |

* WIC: Women, Infants and Children Nutrition

Source: Welfare Reform Study, 12/01, Salina Area United Way

Findings

- No local data is available on the number of families and persons who are homeless.
- Homelessness is not owning, renting or sharing a permanent, safe dwelling.
- The cost of medical care can wipe out a family's income when someone is injured or seriously ill, leading to homelessness. More than one-third of all poor people do not have health insurance. (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999)
- Nationally, children represent 39% of the overall homeless population. Over 40% of homeless children are under the age of 5. (The Urban Institute, 2000, The Better Homes Fund, Newton Center, MA)
- The U.S. Conference of Mayors reports that homelessness has increased every year since 1985 with a 12% increase in 1999. (Better Homes Fund, 2001)
- 44% of homeless people using shelters, soup kitchens or other assistance programs did paid work during the past month, but did not earn enough to move out of shelter. (Better Homes Fund, 2001)
- Although many homeless people work, their efforts to find and keep jobs are hindered by substance abuse, inadequate transportation, lack of child care and basic life skills.
- Homeless children go hungry twice as often as other children and get sick twice as often. More than one-fifth of homeless preschool children have emotional problems serious enough to require professional care. (Better Homes Fund, 2001)
- Children account for 40% of poor people, almost twice as many as any other age group (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999)
- Nationally, an estimated 18% of homeless parents who had previously lived in their own apartment reported they left their residence because of domestic violence. (Homes for the Homeless and the Institute for Children and Poverty, 1999)
- Local service providers report that many of their clients are on the edge of homelessness. Many are living in over-crowded conditions, temporarily staying with acquaintances and relatives. Daily needs are often met through free food and prescription medicines provided by local human services agencies.

- Through September 2001 Ashby House and the Salina Rescue Mission had temporarily sheltered 183 persons this year. (Table: Temporary Shelter) At that rate both will exceed the number of families and men, respectively, sheltered in previous years.
- Ashby House provides shelter and other assistance to families unable to provide for themselves. Most families consist of women with young children.
- Ashby House and OCCK, Inc. provide life skill training to persons to improve their self-sufficiency. In the third quarter of 2001, these two agencies provided training to 492 persons. These agencies and the Salina Rescue Mission also mentor persons in job readiness.
- The Salina Rescue Mission provides sleeping accommodations, meals and counseling for homeless men. Life skill training and coaching for re-entering the job market are also provided, mostly by members of the Mission's Board of Directors. The mission is funded entirely by donations.
- The residential capacity of the mission is 62. As of October 2001, 32 men were receiving shelter, 12 were in the 8 ½ month rehabilitation/training program and 5 were in "aftercare", or on staff. Most clients are considered disenfranchised from their families and/or community. The average age of the clients is getting younger.
- The Salina Rescue Mission reports that the major barrier to homeless regaining employment is transportation. Much entry level work requires 2nd and 3rd shift work. OCCK, Inc. is the only available transportation provider and they only operate during the day and limited hours on weekends.
- Increased availability of decent, low cost housing would decrease the number of homeless persons and provide a major component of stability for the homeless trying to be self-sufficient.
- The Salina Housing Authority owns housing for 163 households. There were 139 families on a waiting list as of October 2001.
- Saline County has 287 rental assistance housing units (Section 8), with a waiting list of 331 families as of October 2001.
- OCCK, Inc. provides 24 housing units to the disabled which are always fully occupied.
- The Authority estimates the following open market monthly rental cost in Salina: one bedroom = \$387, two bedrooms = \$504, three bedrooms = \$697. Child care and utility costs at a minimum wage makes the open market rent of a decent dwelling unaffordable.
- A \$15,000 family income can afford a maximum of \$375/month for rent.
- The Salina Housing Authority reports that there is an average 1 ½ year waiting time for public or rent subsidized housing. The one bedroom waiting list has been closed since September 1998.
- The Authority has experienced a dramatic increase in requests for housing in the last six months.
- The level of free or subsidized food provided to families and individuals is an indicator of the magnitude of poverty and lack of self-sufficiency in the Salina area. The Low Income Indicators table displays this by a number of categories. As of September 2001, 268 families were receiving "welfare" support from the

State, while over 1,900 families were using food stamps and almost 2,700 had received free food directly from local agencies.

- In Saline County schools, 38% of the students receive a free or reduced price meal, meaning their families meet certain State poverty guidelines.

Teen Pregnancy

The Community Profile Issue Matrix at the end of Section I shows that teenage pregnancy in Saline County is seen as a community issue by respondents to the Key Informant Survey, the community groups interviewed, and in recent community assessments dealing with youth issues. Fourteen percent of those responding to the Survey felt teen pregnancy is a serious community issue. Ten percent ranked the issue as one of the three most important.

Indicators

Teenage Pregnancy Statistics and Rates: By County of Residence
Year 1999 1995-1999

| Age Groups | Saline County | Kansas | Saline County | Kansas |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| Live Births | | | | |
| 10-14 | 1 | 50 | | |
| 10-17 | 42 | 1,542 | | |
| 15-17 | 41 | 1,492 | | |
| Abortions | | | | |
| 10-14 | 3 | 50 | | |
| 10-17 | 12 | 528 | | |
| 15-17 | 9 | 478 | | |
| Total Pregnancies | | | | |
| 10-14 | 4 | 103 | 13 | 620 |
| 10-17 | 54 | 2,082 | 255 | 11,554 |
| 15-17 | 50 | 1,979 | 242 | 10,934 |
| Teenage Pregnancy Rate* | | | | |
| 10-14 | 2.1 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| 10-17 | 17.6 | 13.1 | 16.4 | 14.8 |
| 15-17 | 41.9 | 32.0 | 41.1 | 36.5 |

* Rate per 1,000 female-age group population

Source: Center for Health and Environmental Statistics,
Kansas Department of Health and Environment, 1999

Findings

Nationally

- Approximately one million teenagers in the United States become pregnant each year. Of these pregnancies, 95% are unintended and almost one-third end in abortions (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Preventing Teen Pregnancy, December 1, 1998 (CDC)).
- Teenage girls in the U.S. are more likely to give birth by age 20 than their peers in other Western industrialized nations, despite similar levels of sexual activity, according the most recent study of the Alan Guttmacher Institute, a nonprofit organization focused on sexual and reproductive health research and policy analysis.
- The high U.S. pregnancy rates arise primarily from less – and possibly less effective – contraception use by sexually active teens, said the study, which compared data from surveys in the United States, Sweden, France, Canada and Britain.
- The U.S. teenage birth rate of 48.5 per 1,000 women between the ages of 15 and 19 in 2000 is down roughly 22% from 1990 (Salina Journal, 2/13/02), yet remains about twice as high as rates in Britain and Canada, and five times as high as in Sweden and France.
- High levels of teen childbearing reflect both higher pregnancy rates and smaller numbers of teens having abortions.
- The Guttmacher study reports that teen childbearing is not entirely but very much the outcome of social and economic disadvantage.
- U.S. teenagers in the highest economic group are 14% more likely than similar teens in Britain to have a child by age 20. In the lowest economic group, U.S. teenagers are 58% more likely than those in Britain to have children.
- At all socio-economic levels, American teenagers are less likely to use contraceptives, especially the more effective hormonal methods – either oral, injectable or implantable – than their peers in the other countries. Only 4 in 10 sexually active teenagers in the U.S. rely on hormonal methods, compared with 7 in 10 in the other countries studied.
- U.S. teenagers appear to have shorter and more sporadic relationships than teenagers in other countries, as well as more partners, according to the study.

In Kansas and Saline County

- Teenage pregnancy is most problematic in the school age years. There are approximately 3,100 females in the 10-17 age group.
- The table above shows that Saline County teenage girls are more likely than the state average to become pregnant. While the number of births to teen mothers subsided statewide since 1995, Saline County's teen birth rate had not declined through 1999. No trend statistics were found on sexual activity.
- On average 51 babies are born each year to Saline County mothers under age 18. In 1999, 54 babies were born to teen mothers.

- School age girls show the highest rate of pregnancy between 15 and 17 years, both in Salina and statewide. In that age group, Salina has a significantly higher pregnancy rate than the state as a whole.
- Teen pregnancies are not solely a teen problem, though – in about 64% of all Kansas births to teen mothers, the biological father was over the age of twenty (Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Children and Families Section, Teen pregnancy and prevention program, December 1, 1998).

V. HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY

Community Issues

Mental Illness and Emotional Issues
Substance Abuse
Access to Health Care
Access to Dental Care
Behavioral/Life Style Health Issues

Mental Illness and Emotional Issues

The Key Informant Survey asked two questions concerning mental health. The first asked the relative importance of mental illness and emotional issues. 75% of the respondents ranked them moderate or major issues and 27% saw them as of minor or no importance. The second question asked the importance of non-violent personal and family issues. 68% ranked them of moderate or major importance and 25% rated them of little or no importance.

Mental health is the successful performance of mental function which results in a productive and fulfilling life from childhood through late life. Mental illness refers collectively to all mental disorders which are health conditions characterized by alterations in thinking, mood, or behavior (or some combination thereof) and which are associated with distress or impaired functioning (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1999, "Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General-Executive Summary").

Subsequent in-depth interviews with representatives of the Salina Regional Health Center and Central Kansas Mental Health Center made clear the widespread and growing problems Salina as well as other communities are experiencing with mental illness and emotional issues. There are an increasing number of school children with disruptive behavior. A growing number of adults are diagnosed with depressive disorders which cause problems at home and at work. The recently completed 2000-01 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) report: Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001 discusses the growing problem of depression in the community. The following is a discussion of community data available on mental and emotional problems and the capacity of the Salina community to address these issues.

Indicators

Central Kansas Mental Health Center (CKMHC) Mental Health Patients
Years 2000 and 2001

| Time Period | New Cases | Open Cases* |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Year 2000 | 2,016 | 3,230 |
| January-September, 2000 | 1,483 | 2,588 |
| January-September, 2001 | 1,593 | 2,494 |

*New patients plus continuing patients from previous year

Source: CKMHC Admissions Summary Data

Primary Payment Sources: Years 2000 and 2001
Clients of CKMHC

| Source of Payment | 2000 % | 2001 % |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Insurance | 45.4 | 40.5 |
| Healthwave (children) | 1.6 | 2.2 |
| Medicaid | 19.0 | 20.3 |
| Medicare | 5.0 | 5.4 |
| Private Pay | 20.7 | 23.5 |
| Adoption, Foster Care, Family Preservation | 7.5 | 6.7 |
| Other | 0.8 | 1.4 |
| | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Source: CKMHC Admissions Summary Data

CKMHC Patients by Age Group
Years 2000 and 2001 (through September)

| Age Group | 2000 # | 2000 % | 2001 # | 2001 % |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0-12 | 398 | 19.4 | 306 | 19.2 |
| 13-18 | 500 | 24.8 | 403 | 25.3 |
| 19-24 | 233 | 11.6 | 208 | 13.1 |
| 25-44 | 636 | 31.5 | 503 | 31.5 |
| 45-54 | 166 | 8.2 | 114 | 7.2 |
| 55-64 | 52 | 2.6 | 29 | 1.8 |
| 65+ | 39 | 1.9 | 30 | 1.9 |

Source: CKMHC Admissions Summary Data

CKMHC Referrals: Year 2000

| Referred by | % | Referred by | % |
|---------------------------|----|-----------------------------|----|
| Self | 21 | Courts | 12 |
| Family/Friends | 19 | Schools | 6 |
| Social Service Agency/SRS | 16 | Employee Assistance Program | 5 |
| Private Physician | 14 | Other | 7 |

Source: CKMHC 2000 Annual Report

Salina Regional Health Center (SRHC) Mental Health Patients: FY97-01

| Fiscal Year | # Out Patients | # In Patients (Psychoses) | Rank of frequency of Psychosis Diagnosed (inpatients) |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------------|--|
| 97 | 23 | 284 | 6 th |
| 98 | 75 | 246 | 6 th |
| 99 | 81 | 245 | 6 th |
| 00 | 82 | 278 | 5 th |
| 01 | 120 | 372 | 5 th |

Sources: SRHC Discharge Summaries

Findings

- Central Kansas Mental Health Center (CKMHC) provides extensive services for the community.
- Other agencies providing mental health care include, Salina Regional Health Center (SRHC), Veridian Behavioral Health (SRHC), Catholic Charities, Prairie View and Heartland Programs.
- In Kansas, there are three state mental health hospitals: Larned State Hospital serves both adults and children; Osawatomie State Hospital serves adults (age 18+); and Rainbow State Hospital in Kansas City, Kansas serves special cases including children.
- CKMHC is a licensed community health center authorized by 5 Counties. Services include outpatient individual, marital, family, and group therapy for all ages; screening and referral to inpatient treatment or other mental health services; educational programs on mental health topics; and support groups for family members/caregivers of persons with severe and persistent mental illness.
- Through October 2001, 69% of CKMHC clients were residents of Saline County, 16% Dickinson County, 6% Ellsworth County, and 4% Ottawa County with the remainder residing in other counties or out-of-state.
- CKMHC case load has been growing for many years. As the first table above shows, there have been 110 more new cases in 2001 through September than the same period the previous year. As of September 30, 2001, 2,494 persons were receiving treatment.
- Data for the past two years (Primary Payment Sources table) shows that almost 75% of CKMHC patients' cost of service was covered by insurance or public funding. Private pay increased slightly from 2000 to 2001.
- Through September 2001, CKMHC records show one-quarter of CKMHC (646 persons) clients were receiving care for depressive disorders.
- CKMHC offers employee assistance programs (EAP) to area employers. Currently 5% of the patients participate in such a program (CKMHC referrals table).
- The referrals table indicates 40% of people seeking assistance did so on their own with advice of family or friends. While 46% of patients are 18 years or younger, only 6% of that age group were referred by schools.
- Physicians and social service agencies refer 40% of patients to CKMHC (CKMHC referrals table).
- Less than 2% of CKMHC patients are 65 years and older (CKMHC Patients by Age Group table). The service use level of the elderly is very low, in spite of obvious problems associated with aging: loss of spouse, medical problems and costs, loss of mobility, and isolation.
- This table also shows that just over half of new patients during 2001 (854) were adults and thus members or potential members of the workforce.
- Interviews with human/social service agency staff members make clear the lack of mental health support for two groups: the elderly and members of the workforce.
- According to local child care providers, children who are mentally ill or have emotional problems are likely to be unable to function well in the classroom or in day

care. Their often disruptive behavior not only affects their well being and educational progress, but increases the stress level of other students and the staff.

- Children are required to attend school by state law and can be directed to mental health services. They represent 45% of CKMHC patients (CKMHC Patients by Age Group table). No such requisite exists for adults outside the judicial system.
- CKMHC provides after school and summer psychosocial programs for persons ages 6 to 18. They also provide a therapeutic learning program for elementary age youth which treats the children's mental health and educational needs with the goal to return the child to their home school as soon as possible.
- The table displaying mental health patient data for Salina Regional Health Center shows both outpatient and inpatient numbers growing over the past five years. The outpatient data does not include patients from the recently acquired Veridian Behavioral Health agency.
- The number of total inpatient psychoses cases currently represents the fifth most frequent diagnosis at Salina Regional Health Center.
- Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001 focuses on depression, one of the most common and treatable mental illnesses. Depression is characterized by prolonged and unrelenting sadness, loss of interest in activities, fatigue, changes in eating or sleeping patterns, feelings of worthlessness, impaired concentration, and thoughts of death or suicide; however, not all these symptoms must be present for a person to be diagnosed with depression.
 - Among those who thought they may have been depressed in the past five years, only 35% were diagnosed with depression.
 - Among those who did receive treatment, only 36% were treated by a mental health professional.
 - 28% of Saline County respondents reported not getting enough rest or sleep for 14 or more of the past 30 days. This is somewhat higher than the 22%, reported statewide in 1999.
 - Those reporting being sad/blue/depressed for 14 or more of the last 30 days were nearly three times more likely than the general population to be at risk for not getting enough rest or sleep (75% versus 28%).
 - 34% reported not feeling very healthy and full of energy for 14 or more of the past 30 days, statewide 32%.
 - 15% reported being worried, tense, or anxious for 14 or more of the last 30 days, statewide 12% in 1999.
 - 6% reported being sad/blue/depressed for 14 or more of the past 30 days (depressed mood). The prevalence of depressed mood varied by age and was highest among respondents aged 75 and older.
 - 31% of those who reported anxiety also reported depressed mood. Other risk factors which appeared to be associated with depressed mood included no health insurance, not being able to afford a doctor visit and self-reported fair or poor health.
 - Female respondents were more likely than males to report possible depression (24% versus 15%).

Substance Abuse

The Key Informants, in rating the seriousness of “alcohol, tobacco and/or drug abuse” returned a strong consensus that this is an important community issue. The term “drug” used in the survey is herein interpreted to range from inhalants to marijuana and on to cocaine, methamphetamines, designer drugs and heroin. The mean and mode of responses to the survey indicate that the issue is at least of moderate seriousness, with 32% believing it a major issue. The sum of moderate and major equals 84% of responses. This is one of the highest of those combined scores from the survey. Currently, tobacco use prevention has received considerable publicity.

Follow-up interviews, data search and review of literature show substance abuse reporting poses many problems. The only community wide attitudinal data comes from secondary school self-reporting surveys. Treatment center client counts are not comprehensive and not comparable. Police and judicial data can give a secondary measurement of alcohol and illegal drug abuse.

Researchers report that substance abuse tends to be a private matter, often occurring within the home. Respondents to surveys who have substance abuse problems in their households may not be willing to share this information with survey interviewers; whether due to embarrassment, fear of legal repercussions or the belief that substance abuse is not unusual.

Indicators

The following indicators are selected from local data but do not cover all the populations or concerns involved.

Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001 contains the following tobacco related responses:

- Smoked 100 cigarettes in your life: Yes = 44.2%, No = 55.8%
- Smoke everyday = 18.7%, some days = 3.1%, not at all = 78.2%
- Past 12 months, quit smoking for 1 day or longer = 44.1%
- Previously smoked, not for one or more years = 86.9%.

Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey Saline County Schools

| Grade | Had five or more alcoholic drinks in a row in past two weeks (binge drinking) | | | | | Used smokeless tobacco at least once in the past 30 days | | | | |
|-------------|---|------|------|------|------|--|------|------|------|------|
| | 97 | 98 | 99 | 00 | 01 | 97 | 98 | 99 | 00 | 01 |
| 8th Saline | 17.9 | 7.3 | 8.9 | 13.5 | 10.4 | 7.3 | 4.0 | 3.1 | 4.4 | 4.5 |
| State | 15.1 | 14.1 | 15.6 | 13.6 | 12.8 | 9.0 | 7.3 | 6.5 | 5.7 | 5.2 |
| 10th Saline | 34.8 | 24.8 | 29.9 | 33.6 | 27.2 | 14.5 | 6.5 | 8.4 | 9.2 | 9.1 |
| State | 26.8 | 27.6 | 31.1 | 28.8 | 28.1 | 13.6 | 12.6 | 11.3 | 11.2 | 10.1 |
| 12th Saline | 33.1 | 38.1 | 41.0 | 44.3 | 38.4 | 12.3 | 12.8 | 15.5 | 10.1 | 14.3 |
| State | 33.7 | 36.6 | 39.8 | 39.7 | 37.9 | 15.4 | 15.7 | 14.5 | 14.5 | 13.5 |

Source: Office of Prevention, KDHE, 2001

Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey
Saline County Schools

| Grade | Smoked cigarettes at least once in the past 30 days | | | | | Used alcohol at least once in the past 30 days | | | | |
|-------------|---|------|------|------|------|--|------|------|------|------|
| | 97 | 98 | 99 | 00 | 01 | 97 | 98 | 99 | 00 | 01 |
| 8th Saline | 7.3 | 4.0 | 3.1 | 4.4 | 4.5 | 31.5 | 25.5 | 25.9 | 30.9 | 26.3 |
| State | 9.0 | 7.3 | 6.5 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 33.4 | 30.6 | 33.9 | 31.2 | 28.7 |
| 10th Saline | 14.5 | 6.5 | 8.4 | 9.2 | 9.1 | 57.8 | 47.7 | 55.2 | 57.8 | 49.8 |
| State | 13.6 | 12.6 | 11.3 | 11.2 | 10.1 | 48.0 | 47.8 | 52.4 | 49.6 | 47.6 |
| 12th Saline | 12.3 | 12.8 | 15.5 | 10.1 | 14.3 | 56.8 | 57.8 | 64.6 | 70.3 | 57.3 |
| State | 15.4 | 15.7 | 14.5 | 14.5 | 13.5 | 54.8 | 57.2 | 61.5 | 61.1 | 58.9 |

Source: Office of Prevention, KDHE, 2001

Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey
Saline County Schools (continued)

| Grade | Used marijuana at least once in the past 30 days | | | | |
|-------------|--|------|------|------|------|
| | 97 | 98 | 99 | 00 | 01 |
| 8th Saline | 12.5 | 9.2 | 7.5 | 6.1 | 6.0 |
| State | 10.6 | 8.8 | 9.2 | 7.1 | 7.8 |
| 10th Saline | 22.9 | 26.2 | 23.3 | 21.8 | 19.7 |
| State | 18.2 | 17.0 | 19.4 | 15.9 | 17.8 |
| 12th Saline | 25.0 | 26.9 | 22.2 | 25.5 | 20.9 |
| State | 17.3 | 18.0 | 20.8 | 18.5 | 19.3 |

Source: Office of Prevention, KDHE, 2001

Percent of Youth Reporting Substance Use Related Risk-Taking Behaviors,
By Gender and Grade

| Issue | Concern | Total Sample | M | F | 7 th | 9 th | 12 th |
|---------------------|---|--------------|----|----|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Alcohol | Used alcohol 3 or more times last 30 days or got drunk once in last 2 weeks | 22 | 24 | 19 | 8 | 24 | 34 |
| Tobacco | Smokes every day or uses smokeless tobacco frequently | 15 | 16 | 14 | 3 | 16 | 27 |
| Illicit Drugs | Used illicit drugs 3 or more times in last 12 months | 16 | 19 | 13 | 3 | 18 | 29 |
| Driving and Alcohol | Drove after drinking in last 12 months | 14 | 16 | 13 | 3 | 10 | 32 |
| | Rode with driver who had been drinking in last 12 months | 38 | 39 | 37 | 28 | 39 | 48 |

Source: Search Institute Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors, Saline And Ottawa Counties, October 1998

Driving Under the Influence (D.U.I.) Non-felony Adjudications
City of Salina Municipal Court, 1995-2001

| Year | Adults | Juveniles |
|------|--------|-----------|
| 1995 | 602 | 8 |
| 1996 | 442 | 8 |
| 1997 | 364 | 10 |
| 1998 | 323 | 13 |
| 1999 | 463 | 21 |
| 2000 | 264 | 10 |
| 2001 | 374 | 7 |

Findings

- The State of Our Nation’s Youth Survey of 13 to 18 year olds conducted in May 2001 (reported in the Salina Journal, 8/8/01) reports 12% of youth felt pressure to do drugs or drink was a major problem, 24% a minor problem, and 64% not a problem. Therefore, over one-third said peer pressure to take drugs or drink was at least a minor problem for them.
- Central Kansas Foundation (CKF), a local substance abuse treatment and education center, averaged 395 outpatient drug and alcohol abuse clients each quarter during 2001.
- The Adult Attitudes and Practices Survey 2001 (University of Kansas Survey Research Center) shows 19.7% of Saline County adults report that they are current smokers. Those between ages 18 and 35 had the highest smoking prevalence at 27%; ages 50-69 at 15%; and 8% over 70 smoke.
- In 1992 EPA report classified secondhand smoke a Group A carcinogen – a substance known to cause cancer in humans. There is no safe level of exposure for Group A toxins (Respiratory Health Effects of Passive Smoking: Lung Cancer and Other Disorders, EPA, December 1992).
- U.S. Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher stated in August 2000 that 25% of adults and 35% of teens nationwide smoke tobacco (Salina Journal, 8/10/00).
- In October 2000, 12.0% of middle school students responding in Saline County reported using tobacco products (Saline County Tobacco Survey, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, 2000). 25.2% of those reported they feel the need for a cigarette every day, i.e., a very small proportion of total students.
- The University of Michigan’s Institute for Social Research surveys 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students nationwide annually. In 2001, 44,300 students were survey nationwide. Some selected results reported in the Salina Journal, December 20, 2001:
 - Smoking is declining sharply among American teens.
 - Recent sharp increases in the use of the drug ecstasy are slowing; heroin and inhalant use is decreasing.
 - Alcohol remains the most popular “drug” with teens, though a slight reduction was reported in 2001.
 - 47% of 12th graders had used marijuana at some time; 20% of 8th graders had used marijuana – a slight rise for both groups from the year before.

- The Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance Survey (see Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001 for more detail) reports two risk factors for adults related to tobacco use: current smoking and male smokeless tobacco use.
 - 44% of Saline County respondents reported having smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime, and 22% currently smoke on all or some days. This is similar to the Kansas and U.S. current-smoking averages (21% and 23%, respectively).
 - Of those who currently smoke daily, 57% smoke one or more packs per day, and 7% smoke two or more packs per day.
 - 23% of respondents had tried smokeless tobacco: 16% had tried chewing tobacco, 2% snuff, and 5% both. 21% reported currently using smokeless tobacco.
 - 10% of male respondents reported current use of smokeless tobacco. This is similar to state and national averages.
 - 50% of respondents who had reported smoking at least 100 cigarettes in their lives were not currently smoking.
- The Communities That Care Survey of Saline County students (see tables above) provides the following information:
 - Teenage Binge Drinking: Students from grades 8, 10, and 12 were asked each year since 1997 if they had had at least 5 drinks in a row over the past two weeks. The percentages are those who had done so at least once. The 8th grade statistics are the least consistent of the three grade groups and range from 17.9% in 1997 to 7.3% in 1998 and back up and then down to 10.4% in 2001. The state's statistics are more consistent and range from a high of 15.6% in 1999 to a low of 12.8% in 2001. No specific trend can be determined from these numbers other than that the rate is probably somewhere in the low to mid teens.

Tenth graders drink significantly more than 8th graders and their annual rates are more consistent with each other and with the state except for a 10% drop from 1997 to 1998 which did not happen statewide. About 30% of tenth graders admit binge drinking. Although more seniors drink than sophomores, the numbers do not increase as much as between grades 8 and 10. About 40% of seniors have done binge drinking which is consistent with state numbers.

- Types of Drug Use: Saline County 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students were asked how many times they had used each drug over the past 30 days. The percentages are those who had done so at least once.
- Cigarettes: There has been a steady and consistent decrease in all three grades over the past five years. In 1997 all grade groups in Salina were above the state average and now all are below. The state average has also decreased, but to a much less degree. The largest increase in smokers is between 8th and 10th grade.
- Alcohol: Alcohol use has remained fairly steady in all grade groups and consistent with state averages. The 10th grade Salina numbers tend to show fairly wide swings. Once again, the biggest increase of drinkers is between 8th and 10th grade. By 12th grade, 57.3% had drunk alcohol in the last thirty days.
- Marijuana: Marijuana use has decreased dramatically among 8th graders and much more gradually in 10th graders. Usage has remained consistent among 12th graders at about 25%. Except for the last three years among 8th graders, the

- averages are higher in Salina than in the state as a whole. Usage nearly triples between 8th and 10th grade and levels off to 12th grade.
- Other Drugs-LSD, Cocaine, Inhalants and Methamphetamines: Currently, usage in all categories is under 5% and has been under 5% except for 1998 12th graders when LSD, cocaine and methamphetamines were up. Salina averages are consistent with state averages.
 - The Search Institute survey (Table: Percent of Youth Reporting Substance Use Related Risk-Taking Behaviors) provides the following information:
 - As in the Communities That Care survey, alcohol is the most prevalent substance abused (22% of respondents) and dramatically increases with age. Boys are more likely to use alcohol than girls.
 - 32% of seniors declared they drove after drinking at least once in the last 12 months. Riding with someone who had been drinking starts at 28% for 7th graders and rises to almost half the respondents by 12th grade. There is little gender difference.
 - On use of tobacco the survey shows little difference by gender. The increase in use between 7th and 9th grade may not be surprising, but the jump by 12th grade is significant.
 - Boys are more likely to use illicit drugs. By 9th grade almost one in five students had used an illicit drug three or more times in the last 12 months. Further detail in the survey demonstrates that marijuana is by far the most used/abused drug.
 - The Salina Municipal Court handles first and second offense DUI cases (see table on DUI adjudications). These are not rated as felonies. While the number of cases fluctuates substantially, the trend is lower. The number of cases also depends on the level of law enforcement activity. The number of juvenile cases is a very small portion of the total.

Access to Health Care

The Key Informants are equally divided about the severity of the problem of access to health care; however, 90% think it is an issue. Responses to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey of Saline County (BRFSS) shows that access to health care is a significant problem for segments of the population as demonstrated by the indicators below (see full report: Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001 for more detail).

Indicators

Health Care Comparisons

| Indicator | Saline County | Kansas | U.S. |
|--|---------------|--------|------|
| % reporting health was fair to poor | 12% | 12% | 14% |
| % no health insurance or other coverage | 8 | 11 | 12 |
| % unable to see doctor due to cost in last 12 months | 7 | 8 | 10 |
| % lacking a regular health professional | 12 | 14 | n/a |
| % who had their cholesterol checked in last 5 years | 68 | 69 | n/a |

Source: Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001 (BRFSS)

Health Care “Insurance” Coverage

| Question | Yes % | No % |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------|
| Have health care “insurance” coverage | 92.2 | 7.8 |
| Have Medicare | 19.8 | 80.2 |
| Type of coverage | | |
| Your employer | 67.3 | |
| Someone else’s employer | 22.4 | |
| Plan bought on own | 6.6 | |
| Medicaid or Medical Assistance | 0.8 | |
| Military, CHAMPUS, VA | 0.8 | |
| Other | 2.0 | |
| None | 0.2 | |

Source: BRFSS

Lack of Health Care Insurance Coverage

| Question | Yes % | No % |
|---|-------|------|
| How long since had coverage | | |
| With past 6 months | 24.9 | |
| Within past year | 25.7 | |
| Within past 2 years | 19.4 | |
| Within past 5 years | 12.2 | |
| 5 or more years ago | 17.7 | |
| During past 12 months, any time no coverage for respondents currently covered | 4.1 | 95.9 |

Source: BRFSS

Routine Checkups

All Respondents

| When had routine checkup | Response % |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Within past year | 75.2 |
| Within past 2 years | 12.2 |
| Within past 5 years | 5.7 |
| 5 or more years ago | 6.2 |
| Never | 0.7 |

Source: BRFSS

Health Care Utilization

| Question | Response % |
|--|------------|
| One particular place when sick or need health advice | |
| Yes | 90.5 |
| More than one place | 2.7 |
| No | 6.8 |
| Of those reporting one particular place | |
| Doctor's office or private clinic | 84.8 |
| Community/public clinic | 12.7 |
| Other | 2.5 |
| Main reason do not have usual source of medical care | |
| Have not needed a doctor | 40.2 |
| No insurance/cannot afford | 12.8 |
| Two or more usual places | 18.4 |
| Other | 28.6 |

Source: BRFSS

Low Income Subsidized Health and Dental Care
Saline County, 1996-2001

| Type of Service | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | >9/01 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Salina Cares Health Clinic (unduplicated patients) | 1,068 | 1,300 | 1,449 | 2,357 | 2,854 | 2,065 |
| Persons receiving subsidized Prescriptions | 121 | 110 | 148 | 2,597 | 1,918 | 1,539 |
| Persons receiving dental services | 192 | 128 | 19 | 33 | 210 | 130 |
| Salina Cares Health Clinic | 180 | 103 | 1 | 20 | 176 | 118 |
| Through Christmas Fund | 12 | 25 | 18 | 13 | 34 | 12 |

Sources: Welfare Reform Study, Salina Area United Way, October 2001

Uninsured Patients at Salina Regional Health Center
1997-July 2001

| Patient Category | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | >Sept. 01 |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|
| # Inpatients | 363 | 420 | 358 | 376 | 433 |
| # Outpatients | 5,249 | 6,993 | 7,264 | 6,891 | 4,966 |

Source: Salina Regional Health Center and Welfare Reform Study, October 2001

Findings

- 12 % of BRFSS respondents reported their health in general as “fair” or “poor,” the same as statewide. 61% reported their health in general as “very good” or “excellent.” (Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001)

- Higher-than-average proportions of those respondents in fair to poor health were also observed among persons who reported an activity limitation, diabetes and having been sad/blue/depressed 14 or more of the past 30 days.
- The table Health Care Comparisons shows that Saline County residents' health and access to health care do not differ substantially from statewide and national averages, except persons in Saline County are somewhat more likely to have health insurance or other coverage for health care expenses.
- 90% are insured through their own or someone else's employer. 20% of respondents have Medicare coverage.
- Given 7.8% of Saline County residents do not have health care coverage (Table: Health Care "Insurance" Coverage), this represents 1,700 households (out of 21,436 total county households in 2000 U.S. Census) not having coverage.
- Of those reporting no current coverage (next table), 50% had lost that coverage in the past year. 4% of persons with current coverage had also been without it in past year, showing in many cases lack of coverage may be transitory.
- Under 7% of respondents (Table: Routine Checkups) had not had a routine checkup in the past five years.
- The Health Utilization table shows only 7% of respondents did not have a particular place(s) to go when sick or needing health advice. Of that 7%, 13% did not have a usual source of medical care due to lack of insurance coverage or cost. This is a small number of persons.
- The last two tables above provide data on use of local free or reduced cost health care programs and use of the Salina Regional Health Center by uninsured patients. In the third quarter 2001, 5.6% of inpatients and 11.1% of outpatients were uninsured. These substantial usage numbers would indicate a large portion of persons without health insurance or those covered by Medicaid do have access to health services. Thus, the issue is cost to the patient and community, not service availability.

Access to Dental Care

The mean of responses to the Key Informant Survey suggests that access to dental care is between a minor and moderate degree of community concern. The median is a moderate degree of concern and the mode provides a rating of major concern. From these statistics, it is obvious that there is no consensus on this issue. However, a plurality of respondents considers access to dental care a major issue, but a slightly smaller portion considers it a minor issue to the community. A clear majority considers this issue a concern but disagree on the severity.

Responses to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey of Saline County (BRFSS) show that access to dental care is a significant problem for segments of the population and insurance coverage is not as prevalent as for medical services. See full report, Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001, for more detail.

Indicators

| Question | Response % |
|--|------------|
| Last visited dentist | |
| 1 to 12 months | 70.5 |
| 1 to 2 years | 9.3 |
| 2 to 5 years | 7.4 |
| 5 or more years | 11.4 |
| Never | 1.5 |
| Main reason not visited dentist in last year | |
| No reason to go (no problems or no teeth) | 44.8 |
| Cost | 17.2 |
| Other | 14.0 |
| Dislike going | 11.5 |
| Not priority | 10.9 |
| No dentist or no access | 1.5 |
| Insurance coverage for routine dental care | |
| Yes | 65.7 |
| No | 34.3 |
| Currently in need of any dental services (all respondents) | |
| Yes | 18.8 |
| No | 81.2 |

Source: Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001 (BRFSS)

Findings

- The Associated Press (January 28, 2002) quotes Surgeon General David Satcher that cavities cause an estimated 60 million hours of missed school each year nationwide. He goes on to say, “Many people do not see regular dental care as an important part of overall health until they run into problems.”
- Nationally, 24% of the elderly have lost all their teeth according to the Associated Press article.
- Kansas is one of four states that does not have a state dental director.
- In February 2001, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services designated Saline County as a dental health professional shortage area, mainly because dental care is not available to most low income families.
- There are six dentists and one oral surgeon in Saline County who served a total of 277 Medicaid patients (adult and children) during 2000. Fourteen do not accept medical cards for payment. There are 2,600 Medicaid-eligible children under age of 18 (1,266 under age 6) in Saline County. (Salina/Saline County Health Department)
- According to Salina Head Start, during a summer of dental screening of 35 three and four year old Head Start children, 35% were found to have tooth decay (caries).

Children with severe dental needs (6 out of the summer group) must be referred to pedodontists (dentists specializing in dentistry for children) in Manhattan or Hutchinson. Dentists there limit the number of medical card clients accepted.

- The above table shows that 20% of the 2000-01 Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance Survey respondents have not seen a dentist for more than two years; 13% for more than five years or never.
- Of respondents not seeing a dentist in the past year, 17% cited cost, 11% stated it was not a priority and only 1.5% said they had no access.
- Two-thirds of BRFSS respondents have dental insurance, compared to 92% who have health insurance. Almost 20% of all respondents report that they currently need dental services.

Behavioral/Life Style Health Issues

The report, Health Risk Behaviors of Saline County, 2000-2001, presents the results of the Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance Survey conducted for Saline County by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in cooperation with the Salina area Alliance for a Healthy Community. The small sample, telephone survey was conducted during 2000 and 2001.

The report displays the responses to the survey and analyzes ten issues affecting health and quality of life in Saline County. Some of the data and analysis is included in this report. The ten subjects are:

Health Status and Disability: Detailed analysis of five risk factors related to health status and activity limitations - fair or poor health, any activity limitation, pain limited usual activity, needed help with personal care needs, and needed help with routine care needs.

Mental Health/Quality of Life: Detailed analysis of six risk factors related to mental health: not enough rest or sleep; not very healthy and full of energy; worried, tense, or anxious; sad/blue/depressed; possible depression; and diagnosed with depression.

Diabetes Mellitus: Detailed analysis of diabetes including conditions and risks associated with diabetes.

Cholesterol: Detailed analysis of the high blood cholesterol risk factor.

Hypertension: Detailed analysis of the high blood pressure risk factor.

Physical Activity: Detailed analysis of risk factors related to physical activity - sedentary lifestyle, no regular physical activity, less than two days per week of muscle-strengthening activities, and more than two hours per day of leisure television and/or computer.

Obesity: Detailed analysis of risk factors related to overweight and obesity.

Tobacco Use: Detailed analysis of tobacco-related risk factors - smoking and male smokeless tobacco use.

Absenteeism: Detailed analysis of absenteeism risk factor and reported reasons for absenteeism.

Parenting: Detailed analysis of responses from parents with children regarding parenting practices in the household including media exposure, family rules, time spent with children, and supervision after school.

APPENDIX A

Interviews for Data Collection and Issue Review

Salina Arts and Humanities Commission: Martha Rhea, Executive Director

Emergency Aid - Food Bank: Kathy Jackson, Executive Director

Salina Public Schools (USD 305): Dr. Frank Gilbert, Assistant Director for Assessment and Testing

Salina Neighborhood Services: Judy Brengman, Director

Salina Multiple Listing Service (realty listings): Rick Weber, President

Salina Board of Realtors: Karla Barnhart, Association Executive

OCCK, Inc. (Regional Rehabilitation Network): Phyllis Anderson, Director, Community Resource Development

Salina Housing Authority: Cathie Petera, Social Service Coordinator and Ray Lear, Occupancy Specialist

Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (area office): Julie Lemons, Community Services Coordinator

Salina Regional Health Center: Mike Mattek, Regional Service Representative

Salina Area Chamber of Commerce, Regional Workforce Center: M. Maureen Toll, Director

Central Kansas Mental Health Center: Pat Kinnaird, Community Relations Specialist

Salina City Planning and Community Development Department: Vicki Koepsel, Senior Planner

Catholic Charities: Dr. Karen Hauser, Chief Executive Officer

Saline County Commission on Aging: Tom Mulhern, Director

Salina Rescue Mission: Steven Kmetz, Executive Director

Salina Child Care Center: Elaine Edwards, Executive Director

Salina/Saline County Health Department: Del Meier, RN

YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral: Peggy Graves, Director

Salina Area United Way: Ruth Ascher, Executive Director

The Volunteer Connection: Nancy Klostermeyer, Executive Director

APPENDIX B

Review of Recent Studies

An important component of the research into the community issues was review of recent assessments and planning activities. These help define the various interrelationships that tie many of the issues together. These studies also yield invaluable data. The reports available to date from the 2000 U.S. Census and other state and national databases have been used. The community surveys reviewed are:

- 1995 Community Health Assessment for Saline County, Kansas (Alliance)
- 1997 Report of the Health Status of Saline County (Alliance)
- 1999 Developmental Assets-A Profile of Your Youth (Fall 1998 data) (Alliance)
- 2000 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (Alliance)
- 2000 Health Risk Survey-BRFSS (Sunflower Network)
- 2001 Tobacco Use Survey (Salina Tobacco Coalition)
- Communities that Care Annual Surveys (Prevention Center of North Central Kansas)

Community assessments and goal setting projects reviewed are:

A. Comprehensive

- 1996 SAUW Targeted Cause Plan
- 1996 Vision for the Year 2000 – Community Health Assessment (updated) (Alliance)
- SAUW Measurable program outcomes (updated)
- City and County Comprehensive Plans (updated)

B. Specific subject assessments, plans

- 2000 Connect Kansas
- 2000 Heartland Community Needs Assessment 2001
- 2000 Creating the Future (USD 305)
- Welfare reform study (updated)
- 2001 Success by Six strategic plan
- Kansas Kids Count (updated)
- 2001 Workforce Preparation (Chamber of Commerce)
- 2001 Saline County Service Directory (Services with Aging Populations)