

W. Frank Barton School of Business

Center for Economic Development and Business Research

Kansas Population Projections, 2014-2064

Comparison to United States Projections



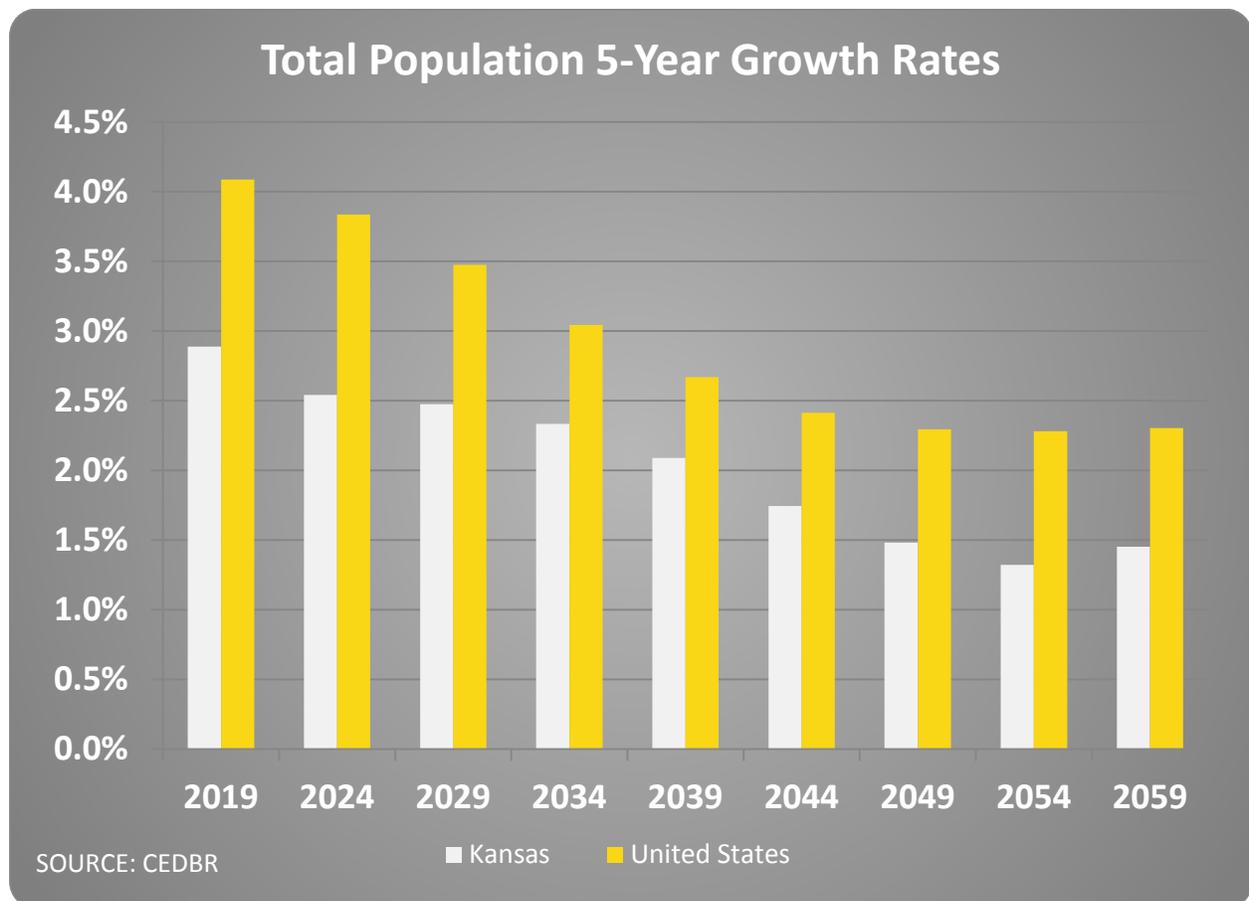
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Kansas Population Projections, 2014-2064

U.S. Comparison | Released February 2017

The Center for Economic Development and Business Research (CEDBR), part of the W. Frank Barton School of Business at Wichita State University, released population projections by age cohort from 2014 to 2064 for every Kansas county¹. In these projections, the overall Kansas population is forecast to grow from 2,904,321 to 3,538,277, a 21.8 percent increase. The U.S. Census Bureau has published their population projections for the entire United States from 2015 to 2060², and they project that the United States population will grow from 321.4 million to 416.8 million in that period. This represents 29.6 percent growth for the U.S. population, which is projected to expand more rapidly than the Kansas population.



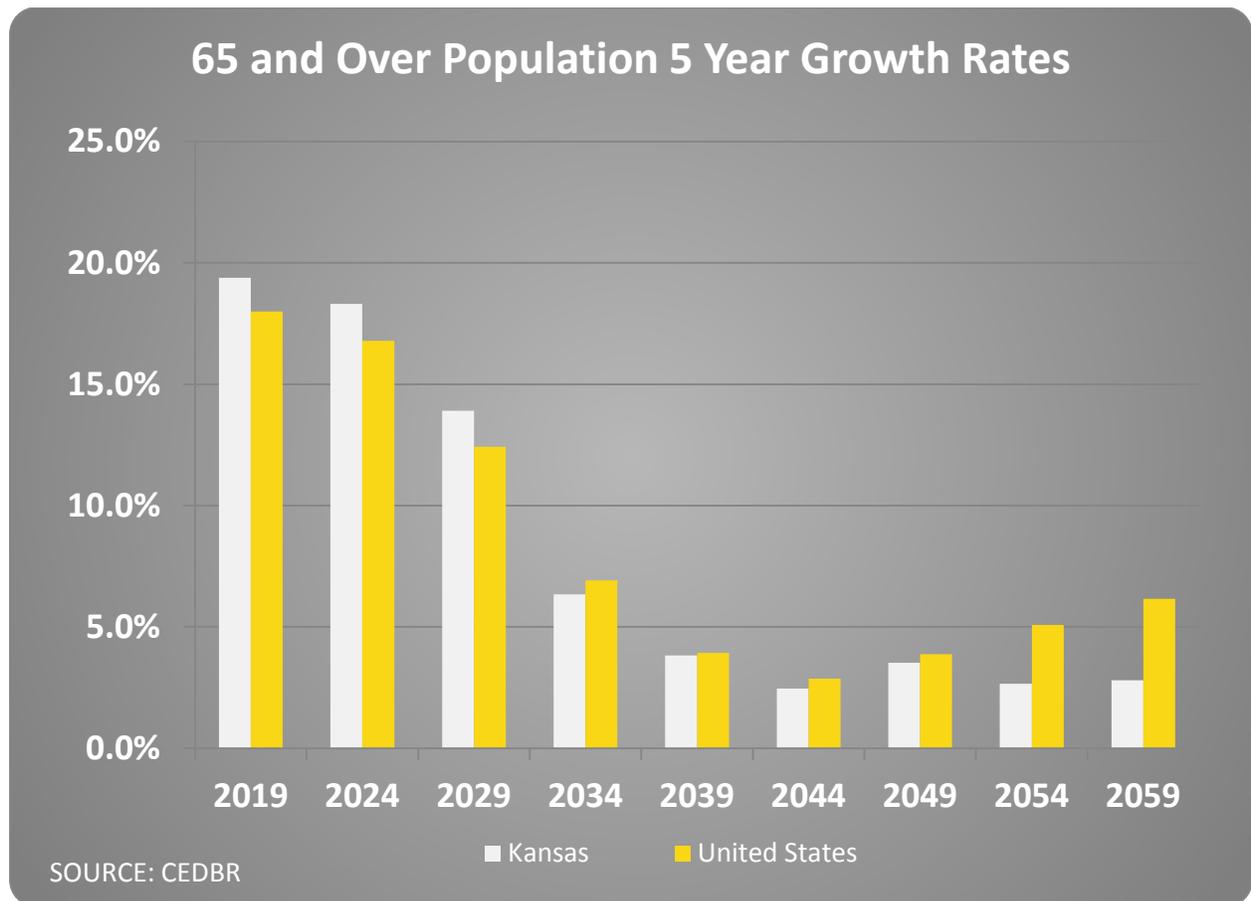
¹ The projections, as well as articles about metropolitan, regional, elderly, youth and micropolitan population growth, can be found at population.cedbr.org.

² Colby, Sandra L. and Jennifer M. Ortman, *Projections of the Size and Composition of the U.S. Population: 2014 to 2060*, Current Population Reports, P25-1143, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 2014.

Both the Kansas and the U.S. populations are projected to have positive growth rates throughout this period, with growth generally slowing over much of this period as well. The rate of growth in Kansas is expected to have a larger decline, dropping by over half between 2019 and 2054. For both geographies, the overall population increase is forecast to remain positive despite the declines. Average annual population growth for Kansas is projected to be 0.4 percent, while the U.S. is projected to have 0.58 percent average annual population growth.

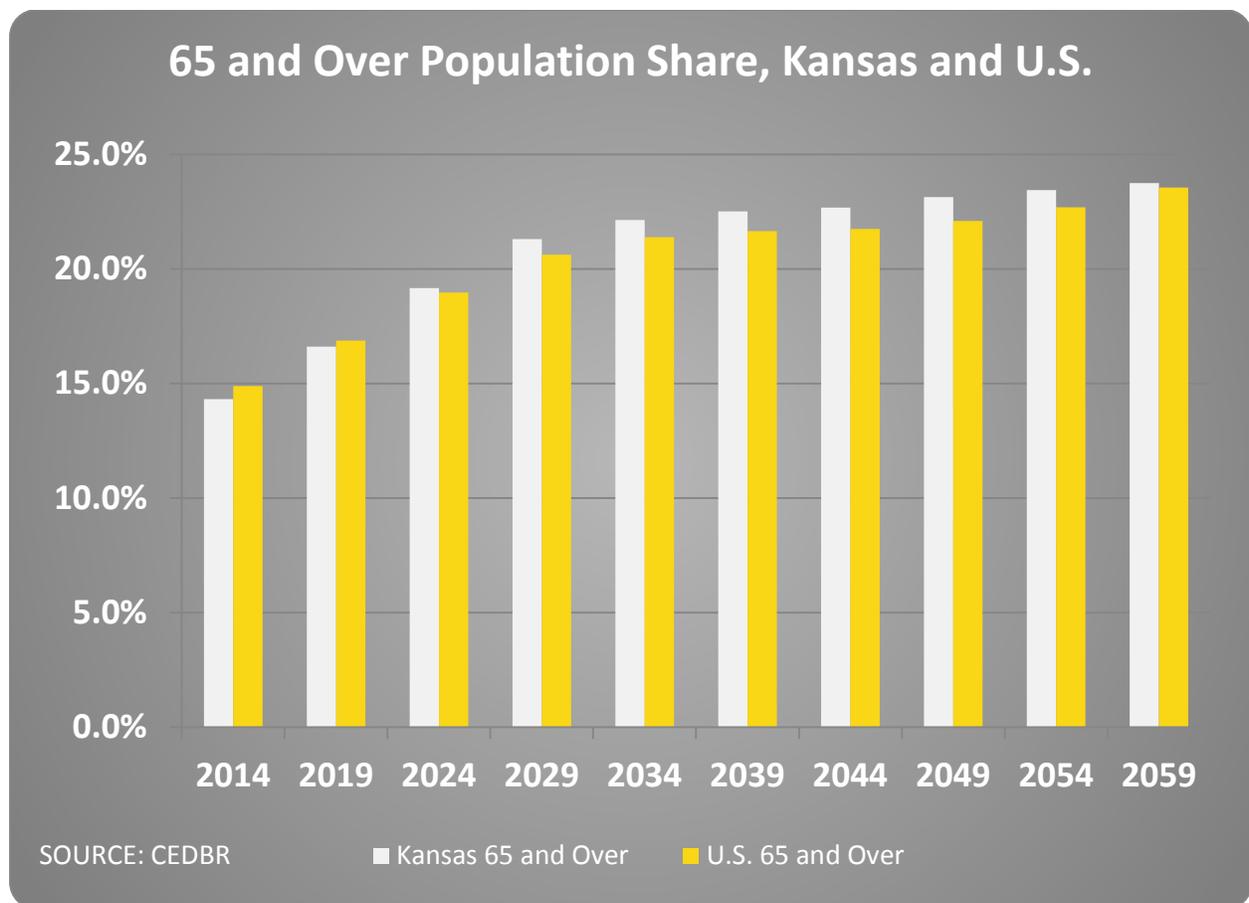
Within the overall growth rate, there is projected to be substantial variation among age groups for both the U.S. and Kansas. The largest variation is expected to be in the 65-and-over growth rates, which, despite fluctuations, are projected to lead to the largest population gain of any age group. In the next 15 years, the 65-and-over growth rate is forecast to exceed 10 percent for each five year increment forecast, by far the highest increase for any age group in any time period forecast. This growth is projected to decrease to below five percent by 2039 for both geographies, which, while a substantial decline over time, still leaves the 65-and-over group with the highest age group growth rate in 2039.

While Kansas is expected to have a faster increase in its 65-and-over population for the early portion of the forecasts, in the later years the U.S. expansion is projected to be more than double that of Kansas. Due to those high growth years, the U.S. is projected to have a slightly higher overall average annual growth rate for the 65-and-over population than Kansas, 1.61 percent as compared to 1.54 percent.



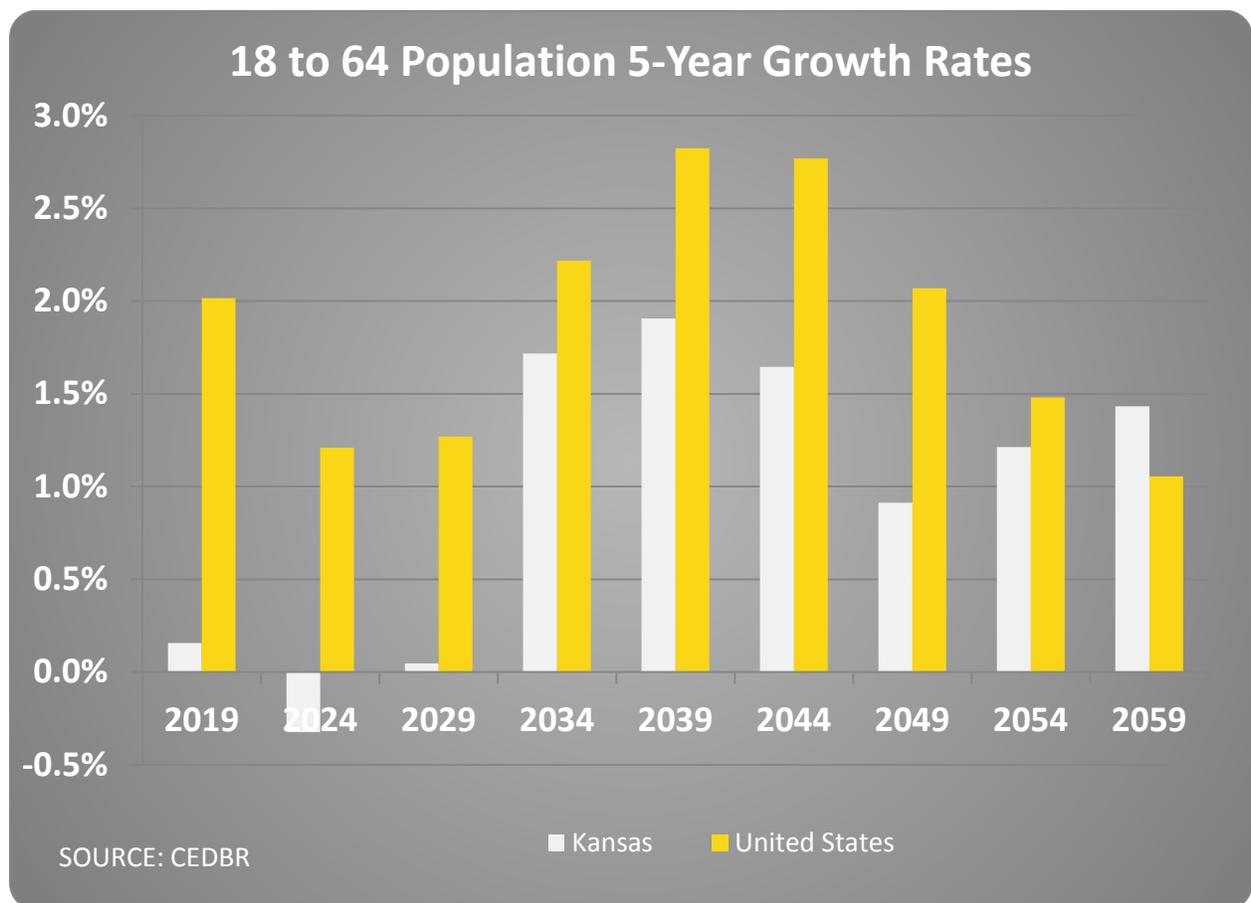
In both the U.S. and Kansas, the fraction of the population which is 65 or older is projected to rise by over five percentage points through 2059. In 2014, the share of the Kansas population 65 or older was 14.3 percent, slightly lower than that of the U.S., 14.9 percent. Kansas's share of 65-and-over population is expected to surpass the nation's in 2024 by 0.2 percent, and Kansas is forecast to have a higher share for the remainder of the period projected.

The 65-and-over share is expected to continue to increase substantially through 2034, when the Kansas share is projected to be 22.5 percent and the U.S. share is projected to be 21.7 percent. From 2034 through 2059, the 65-and-over share is expected to continue to increase, but at a much lower rate. Kansas' share will reach 23.8 percent, increasing 1.3 percentage points over those 25 years, while the nation's share increases to 23.6 percent, a 1.9 percentage point increase.



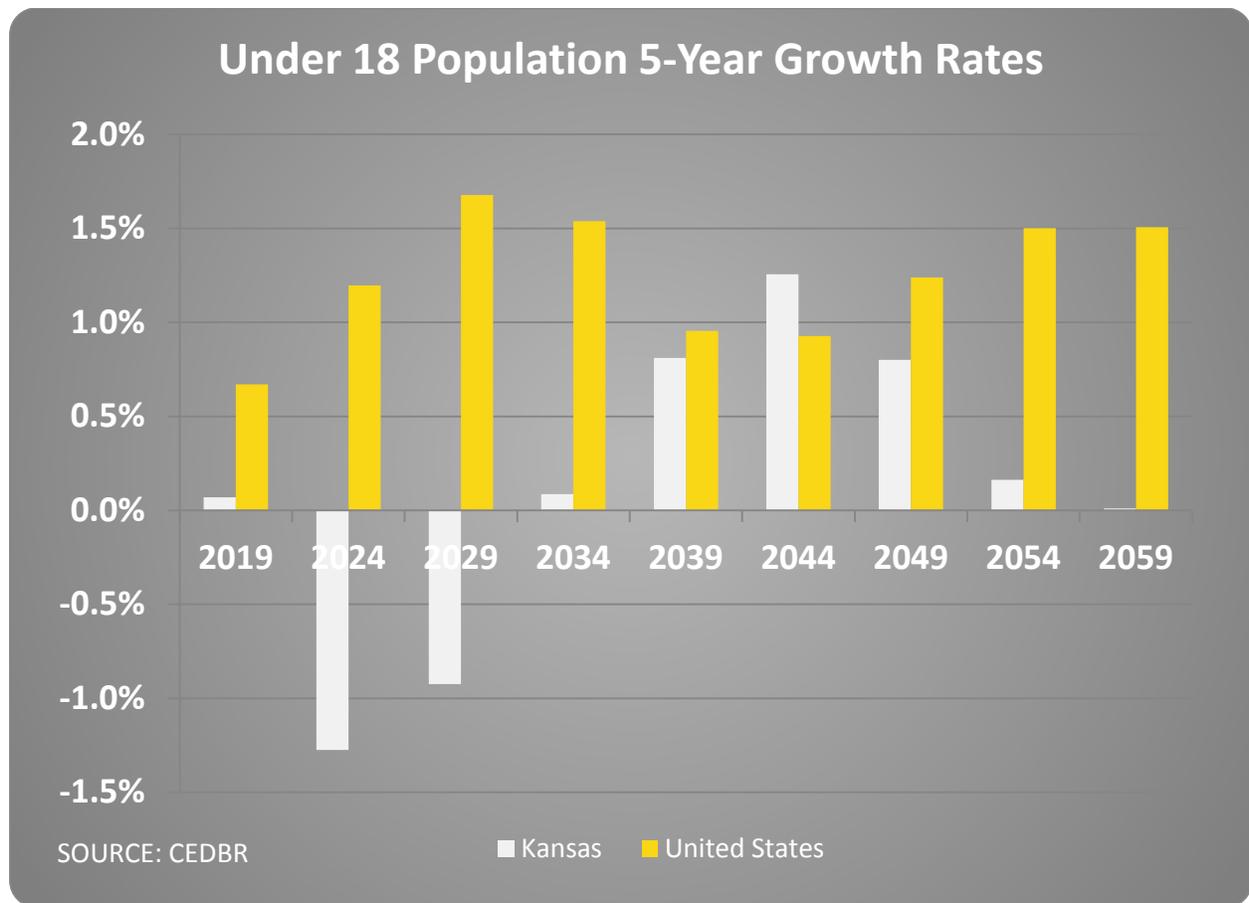
The working-age (ages 18 to 64) population growth of both Kansas and the U.S. is projected to have a considerable range in growth rates over the forecasted period. Kansas is expected to have a wider variation, even having negative growth of 0.3 percent in 2024. For both Kansas and the U.S., the growth in working-age population is projected to be lower than the 65-and-over population growth for every year. The working-age population, as a share of the total population, is projected to decline for both the state and the nation. For the U.S., the working-age population share is forecast to decline from 62.2 percent in 2014 to 56.7 in 2059. The Kansas working-age population is projected to decline similarly, falling from 60.7 percent in 2014 to 55.2 percent in 2059.

Throughout the vast majority of the period forecasted, Kansas is projected to have a lower growth rate for the working age population than the U.S. Overall, Kansas working age population is expected to have an average annual growth rate of 0.2 percent, while the U.S. average annual growth rate is expected to be 0.4 percent. This is similar to the difference in overall population growth in the two geographies, with Kansas being 0.2 percent lower than the U.S.



The youth (under 18) population is expected to have the lowest increase of any age group for both Kansas and the U.S. The U.S. youth population is expected to have consistently low but positive growth over the period forecast. Kansas, however, is projected to have negative growth for some of the period forecasted. Even when Kansas' youth population growth is forecast to be positive, it is still generally lower than the increase in the nation's youth population. Overall, Kansas is projected to have average annual youth population growth of 0.02 percent, while the U.S. average annual youth population growth is projected at 0.25 percent.

Due to having such low growth, the youth share of the population is projected to decline for both the U.S. and Kansas. Kansas is forecast to have a larger decline, with the youth population falling from 24.9 percent in 2014 to 21 percent in 2059. The U.S. youth population share is projected to have a more modest decline, from 22.9 percent in 2014 to 19.7 percent in 2059.



View more detailed data released in this forecast at www.population.cedbr.org or subscribe to CEDBR's e-Connection Newsletter at www.subscribe.cedbr.org. The Center for Economic Development and Business Research can customize forecasts upon request. Contact Jeremy Hill at 316-213-3673 for cost and availability.