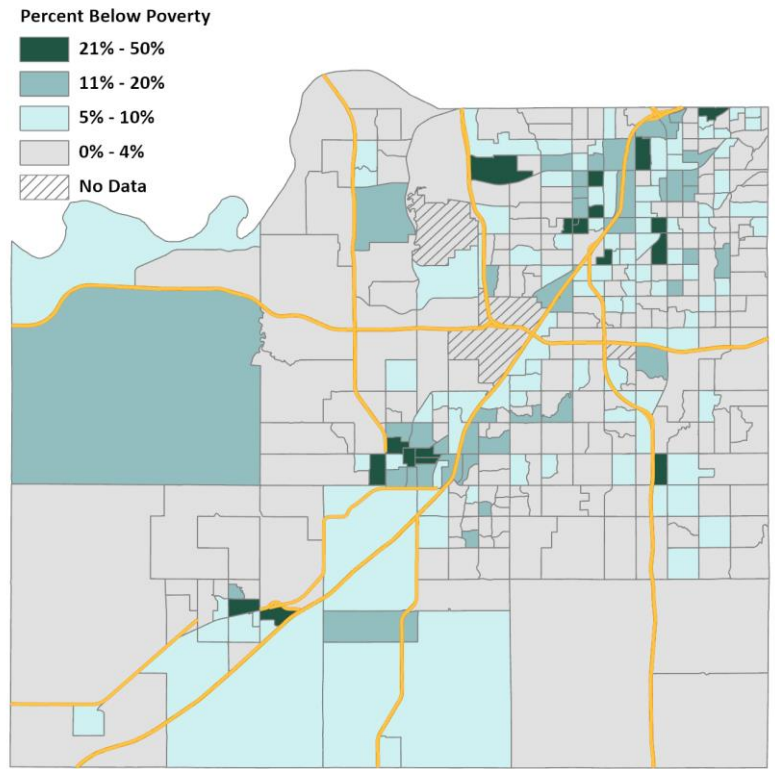




**Poverty in Johnson County Cities:
5-Year Census Estimates**

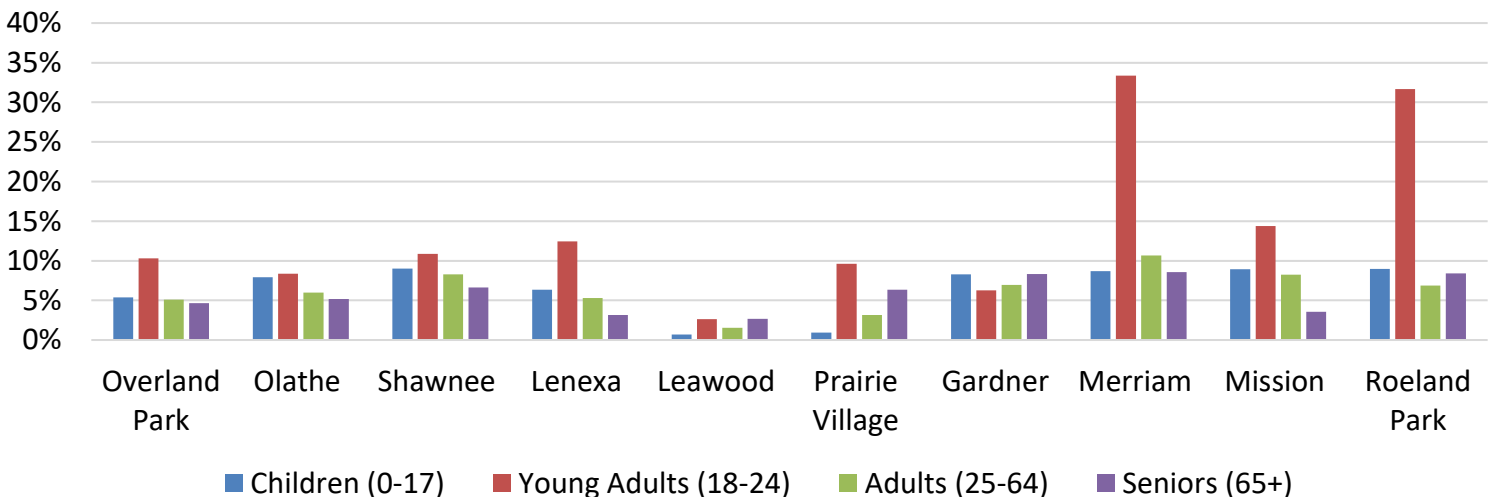
More than 31,500 Johnson County residents, or 5.4% of the population, lived below the federal poverty level, according to the most recent 5-year estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau (2015-2019). In 2019 the federal poverty level was \$12,490 for an individual and \$21,330 for a family of three. Approximately 80,700 residents (including the 31,500 living below the poverty level) lives at or below 200% of the poverty level, earning just enough to avoid the technical definition of poverty.

UCS uses 5-year estimates to track poverty in local cities, because the Census Bureau provides only 5-year estimates (rather than 1-year estimates) for jurisdictions with fewer than 65,000 people. Tracking 5-year poverty rates provides essential information to help understand poverty trends and to support interventions that address challenges related to poverty in our community.



While poverty can be found throughout Johnson County, mapping analysis conducted by Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) indicates that poverty is greater in certain geographic locations. Census tracts with relatively higher poverty rates are in the Northeast suburbs, the county seat of Olathe, urban communities along the I-35 corridor, and the rural areas of Gardner and De Soto. Poverty at the city level varies by age group. In almost all of the larger cities in Johnson County, the poverty rate for young adults (also known as transitional-age youth age 18-24) is higher than that of any other age group, a trend that has remained steady since 2013.

**POVERTY RATE BY AGE GROUP
10 LARGEST CITIES**



Individuals and families in poverty do not have enough income to meet the cost of living. Households experiencing poverty have limited resources with which to choose safe and attainable housing, healthy food, reliable transportation, health care services and other necessities. Poverty is one of the most prevalent social determinants of health and has implications for where, how, and how long a person lives. Johnson County cities have an important role to play in leading around these key issues to reduce the negative impacts of poverty and improve the quality of life for residents.

2019 Federal Poverty Guidelines
Adjusted annually by family size

- 1 person: \$12,490 per year
- 2 persons: \$16,910 per year
- 3 persons: \$21,330 per year
- 4 persons: \$25,750 per year

Add \$4,420 for each additional person

POPULATION AND POVERTY IN JOHNSON COUNTY			
CITIES AND TOWNSHIPS			
	<i>Total Population</i>	<i>Poverty</i>	<i>Poverty Rate</i>
Cities			
De Soto	6,211	418	6.7%
Edgerton	1,705	71	4.2%
Fairway	3,946	85	2.2%
Gardner	21,253	1,423	6.7%
Lake Quivira	920	34	3.4%
Leawood	34,568	480	1.4%
Lenexa	53,518	2,773	5.2%
Merriam	11,042	1,223	11.1%
Mission	9,476	749	7.9%
Mission Hills	3,574	17	.5%
Mission Woods	186	3	1.6%
Olathe	135,701	7,914	5.8%
Overland Park	189,611	9,244	4.9%
Prairie Village	22,052	733	3.3%
Roeland Park	6,769	631	9.3%
Shawnee	65,000	4,779	7.4%
Spring Hill	6,582	554	8.4%
Westwood	1,657	80	4.8%
Westwood Hills	463	7	1.5%
Townships			
Aubry township	4,463	33	7%
Gardner township	2,230	103	4.6%
Lexington township	1,402	63	4.4%
McCameish township	1,075	30	2.8%
Olathe township	1,002	0	0%
Oxford township	1,830	61	3.3%
Spring Hill township	2,228	126	5.7%
Total	588,464	31,634	5.4%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates 2015-2019, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2019; **About the data:** The data are based on survey data. Because surveys cover only a limited sample of individuals or households – rather than the entire population – estimates calculated from survey data are subject to uncertainty due to sampling error. Estimates for low-population cities should be interpreted with caution, as they may be subject to significant uncertainty. The data represented in the map show poverty at the census tract level.

Published January 2021