United Community Services of Johnson County

A Profile of Johnson County Seniors

More than 93,000 seniors (age 65+) call Johnson County home, representing 15.3% of the population in Johnson County. More than 10% of seniors are over the age of 85.

Among seniors who do not live with a family member, one in four live alone. Nearly 3 in 4 seniors who live alone are women. Older adults living alone is a household arrangement that is more common in the United States than in many other countries, according to a study from the Pew Research Center which found that 27% of adults ages 60 and older live alone in the United States, compared with 16% of adults in the 130 countries and territories studied. Loneliness and social isolation can be significant issues for seniors living alone. Research has shown that social isolation may be at a higher risk of depression and other health problems.



Household Arrangemement by Sex Johnson County, KS

More than 58% of seniors in Johnson County identify as having a disability. Living alone can have significant consequences for seniors living with disabilities. Seniors living alone also experience financial challenges that threaten quality of life. Six percent of all seniors (more than 5,800 people) in Johnson County live at or below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Women in that age group are slightly more likely to experience poverty than men.



Perhaps one of the most significant financial challenges for seniors in Johnson County is the housing cost burden. Households that are housing cost-burdened spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs. For Johnson County seniors, 23% of homeowners and 64% of renters are housing cost-burdened. Housing cost burden, poverty levels, and isolation of seniors, amongst other challenges create a difficult landscape for seniors to thrive in Johnson County.

Support networks are essential for seniors living alone as they provide emotional companionship and help combat the isolation that can come with solitary living. Housing options and

supports, community services, and other resources can fill gaps in care and offer valuable resources for seniors, contributing significantly to their overall well-being.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2021 1 Year Estimates

