

Riley County Community Needs Assessment

TRANSPORTATION FINDINGS

 **92%**

typically use a car (either driving or riding with others) to go to their most frequent destinations.

69% of survey respondents have two or more cars



5.4% REPORTED THAT TRANSPORTATION ISSUES REGULARLY PREVENT THEM FROM DOING WHAT THEY NEED TO DO.

For persons with low incomes or disabilities, the primary concerns are:



Too few routes and/or bus stops in areas where public transportation is most needed



Benches are not near enough to bus stops



Few low-cost options or assistance for car repairs for those who have their own transportation

The top five needs are:

IMPROVE PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICE

DEVELOP A PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM TO MAKE AREAS MORE WALKABLE
(improve sidewalks, crosswalks, signals, etc.)

PROVIDE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES
(intersection or interchange improvements, pavement of gravel roads, bridge repairs, etc.)

EXPAND AND IMPROVE THE BIKE ROUTE SYSTEM (BIKE PATHS, BIKE LANES) TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO BIKE AS A FORM OF TRANSPORTATION

ADDRESS TEXTING AND DRIVING



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The 2014 Riley County Community Needs Assessment, conducted by Wichita State University Center for Community Support and Research, included the compilation of selected secondary data, administration of a community survey (N=1,126), key informant interviews, and focus groups with persons who were underrepresented in the survey. The following key findings related to physical health were drawn from the methods noted above.

Riley County is relatively typical for the state in terms of the number of cars residents can access. It also appears to be safer than is average for the state with a higher rate of seat belt use, lower percentage of fatal drinking/driving crashes, and a generally low rate of traffic accident mortality. Fewer individuals are also likely to have long commutes than is average for the state. Survey responses indicate few issues with transportation as an impediment to daily life; however, responses during interviews and focus groups indicate that those with lower incomes or disabilities experience significant issues in this area. The responses regarding top needs show concern about ways to make the community more accessible to those who can't or don't want to use private vehicles as well as the increasing problem of texting and driving.

Selected data from secondary sources

Mental Health	Riley County	Kansas	Source
Percent of adults who reported they do not always wear a seatbelt when they drive or ride in a car, 2013	12.3%	17.0%	BRFSS
Rate of age-adjusted traffic injury mortality (per 100,000 population), 2010-2012	5.1	14.80	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Alcohol related driving deaths, 2008 - 2012	3	691	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (Fatality Analysis Reporting System)
All vehicle accident deaths, 2008 - 2012	16	1992	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (Fatality Analysis Reporting System)
Percent having access to one or more vehicles, 2013	93.8%	94.4%	US Census Bureau American Community Survey
Percent who drive more than 30 minutes to work per day (i.e., long commute), 2011	14.0%	20.0%	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation County Health Rankings

For the full report, go to: www.rileycountycommunityneedsassessment.org