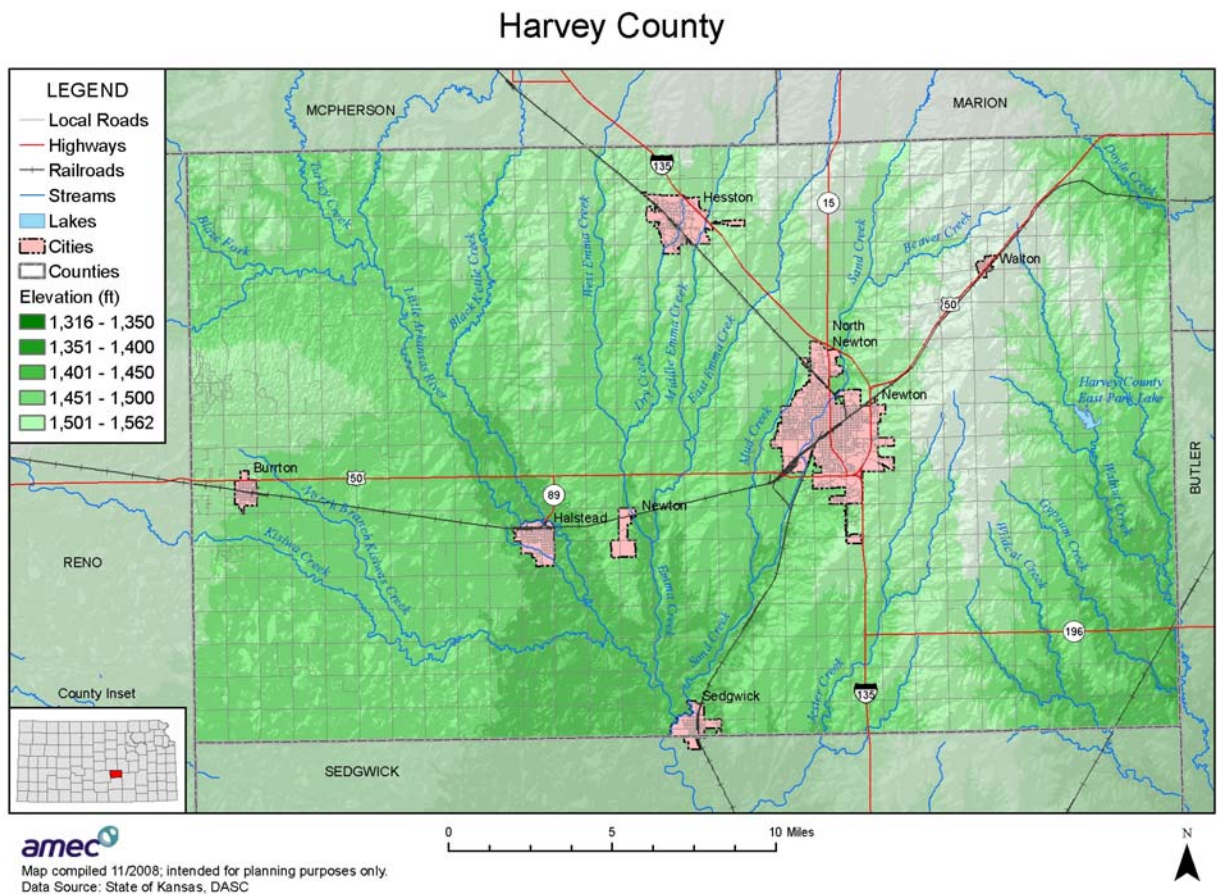


# Chapter 2 PLANNING AREA PROFILE AND CAPABILITIES

Chapter 2 provides a general profile of Harvey County followed by descriptions of each of the jurisdictions participating in this plan and their existing mitigation capabilities.

Figure 2.1 shows a map of the Harvey County planning area.

**Figure 2.1.** Harvey County Planning Area



## 2.1.1 Geography and Topography

Harvey County is located in south central Kansas, along the Little Arkansas River. The county encompasses 540 square miles, is 18 miles wide in its north-south dimension and 30 miles long

in its east-west dimension. The county is located seventy five miles north of the Oklahoma border and about one hundred and ten miles south of the Nebraska state line. The county is located approximately 30 miles south-southeast of the geographic center of the continental United States. Harvey County contains seven cities.

Although it is the 10<sup>th</sup> smallest county in Kansas, it contains three distinct physiographic provinces: the Arkansas River Lowlands in the west, Wellington-McPherson Lowlands in the center and Flint Hills on the eastern edge. According to William G. Cutler's *History of the State of Kansas*, the surface soil of Harvey is similar to that of other counties in the immediate vicinity, being a rich, black sandy loam, strongly impregnated with gypsum and lime, and varies in depth upon the uplands from two to ten feet, and upon the bottoms from three to thirty feet. The subsoil is very porous and under laid with gypsum, which accounts for its remarkable productiveness. The entire county slopes gently to the southeast, about one half being upland and the remainder being equally divided between first and second bottom. Given its soil and climate, a full range of common products can be raised here, including grains, grasses and fruits.

Harvey has some of the best water resources in the state. The Great Arkansas River flows through the southwestern corner; the Little Arkansas enters the county from the north and flows southeast. Tributaries include Turkey, Black Kettle, Kisiwa, Sand, Jester, the three Emmas and Gooseberry creeks. In addition to these there are Doyle, Wildcat, Gypsum, and two branches of the West Whitewater River which are important tributaries of the Walnut River. These streams are, in all seasons of the year, fed by numerous springs and minor tributaries. Well depths range from ten to fifteen feet in the lowlands and twenty to forty feet on the uplands.

The elevation of Harvey County averages 1,450 feet above sea level. Elevation at the Newton City-County Airport, located three miles east of Newton, is 1,533 feet above sea level.

The ancestry of Harvey County residents is predominantly German with approximately 45 percent of the population reporting some German background.

### **2.1.2 Climate**

The climate regime for the Midwestern region of the United States that includes Harvey County is a transition area between semi-arid and humid continental areas. It is characterized by moderate precipitation levels and continental weather patterns supporting temperate grasslands, savannahs, and shrub lands. The Kansas State University Weather Data Library reports an annual precipitation average of 31.52 inches per year for the period 2000-2008, with a high of 38.6 inches in 2008 and a low of 17.15 inches in 2006. Precipitation totals for the months of December through February are generally the lowest of the year, typically contributing less than 12 percent to the annual total. Harvey County averages 225 sunny days per year and average

high temperatures in July are 6.6 degrees hotter than the national average. Table 2.1 contains the climate averages for Newton.

**Table 2.1.** Newton, Kansas Annual Climate Averages

Climate	Newton	United States
Annual Rainfall (inches)	31.6	36.6
Annual Snowfall (inches)	13.3	25.2
Precipitation Days (annual total)	76	101
Sunny Days (annual total)	225	205
Average July High Temperature (°F)	93.1	86.5
Average January Low Temperature (°F)	20.0	20.8

Source: Kansas State University Research and Extension, [http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/wdl/precip%20files/hv\\_p.asp](http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/wdl/precip%20files/hv_p.asp); Sperlings, <http://www.bestplaces.net/city/Newton-Kansas.aspx>

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### 2.1.3 Population/Demographics

According to the Kansas Division of the Budget, the July 1, 2007 population estimate for Harvey County was 33,493. Population density is 60.9 people per square mile; lower than the national average but higher than the statewide average of 32.9. County population increased 1.9 percent from 2000 to 2007. Populations for each of the incorporated cities and the unincorporated area of the county are provided in Table 2.2

**Table 2.2.** Harvey County Population Change, 2000-2007

Jurisdiction	2000	2007	Change 2000-2007 (%)
Burrton city	932	890	(4.7)
Halstead city	1,873	1,886	0.7
Hesston city	3,509	3,701	5.2
Newton city	17,190	18,017	4.6
North Newton city	1,522	1,573	3.2
Sedgwick city (pt.)	1,326	1,409	5.9
Walton city	284	287	1.0
Unincorporated Harvey County	6,233	5,730	(8.8)
<b>Total Harvey County</b>	<b>32,869</b>	<b>33,493</b>	<b>1.90%</b>

Source: Kansas Division of the Budget, <http://budget.ks.gov/ecodemo.htm>

Selected U.S. Census 2000 demographic and social characteristics for Harvey County are shown in Table 2.3 are for the entire county including totals from incorporated areas.

**Table 2.3.** Harvey County Demographic and Social Characteristics

Jurisdiction	Under 5 Years (%)	65 Years and Over (%)	Households w/ Individuals Under 18 (%)	Average Household Size	High School Graduates (%)	Bachelor Degree or Higher (%)
U.S.	6.8	12.4	36.0	2.6	80.4	24.4
Kansas	7.0	13.3	35.5	2.5	86.0	25.8
Harvey County	6.1	16.8	34.9	2.46	89.6	24.0
Burrton city	8.5	13.1	36.6	2.58	81.7	8.4
Halstead city	6.9	18.0	35.3	2.44	86.4	19.3
Hesston city	5.6	19.7	36.4	2.52	90.1	32.2
Newton city	5.6	16.5	34.3	2.43	83.8	21.6
North Newton City	2.6	35.3	15.1	1.89	87.5	49.9
Sedgwick city (pt.)	7.7	13.8	42.0	2.71	87.3	14.4
Walton city	7.4	8.8	44.0	2.61	78.9	14.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000, [www.census.gov/](http://www.census.gov/)

## 2.1.4 History

Harvey County was settled as early as 1869, but the plan to form a new county was not adopted until the fall of 1871. The new county was to consist of fifteen congressional townships, ten to be taken from Sedgwick County, three from McPherson County and two from Marion County, with Newton as the county seat. According to this plan, the territory embraced in the limits of Burrton, Halstead, Darlington, Lake, Lakin, Macon, Newton, Pleasant, Richland, Sedgwick, Alta, Walton, Highland, Emma and Garden townships, was organized by an act of Legislature, February 29, 1872. The county was named for James M. Harvey, Captain of Company G, Tenth Regiment of Kansas Infantry, and Governor of the State from 1869 to 1873. In January, 1874, he was elected United States Senator to fill the unexpired term ending in 1877.

On the completion of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, July 17, 1871, Newton became the shipping point for Texas cattle herds which were previously driven to Abilene for transport. The "cow-boy reign" lasted from June, 1871, to January 1, 1873, after which the railroad was completed to Dodge City and a branch to Wichita. The cattle trade moved to those locations and

the city of Newton was able to recover from “the desperadoes and roughs who so long infested it.” (Cutler, 1883)

In addition to the county's dynamic railroad history, it experienced Mennonite migration into south central Kansas in the 1870s and 1880s. It was the Mennonite settlers who introduced Turkey Red Hard winter wheat to the state.

Newton is a sizable culture center for the Mexican population due to the fact that Newton was at one time a major point on the Santa Fe also intersected by the Missouri Pacific. Thousands of Mexican laborers arrived to work on the railroad and many became permanent residents.

### 2.1.5 Economy/Industry

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the industries that employed the highest percentage of Harvey County’s labor force were educational, health, and social service with 28.0 percent of workers employed in these areas compared to 21.9 percent for the state. In Harvey County manufacturing jobs represented 21.0 percent and retail trade 10.7 percent compared to state wide rates of 15.0 percent and 11.5 percent respectively.

The Kansas Department of Labor reports 18,281 Harvey County residents in the civilian labor force as of February 2009. The County unemployment rate of 4.9 percent is lower than the statewide unemployment rate (6.2 percent) which is up from 4.0 percent last year. The state unemployment rate reflects the job losses resulting from the economic slowdown.

Table 2.4 lists selected economic characteristics for Harvey County and incorporated cities from the 2000 U.S. Census.

**Table 2.4.** Harvey County Economic Characteristics by Jurisdiction, 2000

Jurisdiction	Median Household Income (\$)	Median Home Value (\$)	Median Monthly cost with Mortgage (\$)	Population 16+ in Labor Force (%)	Highest Employing Industry (%)
U.S.	41,994	119,600	1,088	63.9	Educational, Health, Social Services <b>(19.9%)</b>
Kansas	40,624	83,500	888	67.5	Educational, Health, Social Services <b>(21.9%)</b>
Harvey County	40,907	94,400	787	66.6	Educational, Health, Social Services <b>(28.0%)</b>
Burrton	33,646	50,900	561	65.3	Educational, Health, Social Services <b>(23.6%)</b>
Halstead	42,411	71,600	802	66.9	Educational, Health, Social Services <b>(32.3%)</b>
Hesston	42,585	96,300	925	67.7	Educational, Health, Social Services <b>(41.2%)</b>

Newton	38,236	67,800	755	66.2	Educational, Health, Social Services <b>(25.9%)</b>
North Newton	36,974	94,500	930	54.0	Educational, Health, Social Services <b>(45.2%)</b>
Sedgwick city (pt.)	44,934	66,300	798	69.3	Educational, Health, Social Services <b>(23.8%)</b>
Walton	34,375	48,500	669	83.6	Manufacturing <b>(25.0%)</b>

Information from the Kansas Center for Community and Economic Development (KCCED) reports the number of business establishments in Harvey County increased from 818 to 856 ( up 4.6 percent) from 2000-2006. In 2006, 740 businesses had 1-19 employees, 95 had 20-99 employees, 19 had 100-499 employees, and two had 500 or more employees.

According to payroll data from 2006, manufacturing establishments constitute the highest percentage of the county payroll total (39.8 percent), followed by health care and social assistance (22.1 percent). Retail trade was the most common business type in 2006 (16.8 percent of total), followed by other services (14.5 percent) and health care and social assistance (10.4 percent). Table 2.5 contains information about business establishments, employees and payroll values by occupational sector for Harvey County in 2006.

**Table 2.5.** Establishments, Employment and Payroll by Occupational Sector, 2006

Occupational Sector	Total Establishments (count)	Establishments (%)	Number of Employees (# on 3-12-06)	Percent Employees	Annual Payroll (2006)	Percent Annual Payroll
Total	856	100.0	13,202	100.0	350,414	100.0
Forestry, fishing, hunting, and agriculture support	1	0.1	0-19	0.1	0	0.0
Mining	7	0.8	50	0.4	2,047	0.6
Utilities	1	0.1	20-99	0.2	0	0.0
Construction	100	11.7	695	5.3	25,367	7.2
Manufacturing	66	7.7	3,832	29.0	139,356	39.8
Wholesale trade	34	4.0	262	2.0	8,279	2.4
Retail trade	144	16.8	1,697	12.9	29,243	8.3
Transportation & warehousing	30	3.5	189	1.4	7,812	2.2
Information	20	2.3	108	0.8	2,789	0.8
Finance & insurance	51	6.0	289	2.2	9,219	2.6
Real estate & rental & leasing	28	3.3	77	0.6	1,154	0.3
Professional, scientific & technical services	47	5.5	265	2.0	6,807	1.9
Management of companies & enterprises	4	0.5	20-99	0.2	0	0.0

Admin, support, waste mgt, remediation services	25	2.9	417	3.2	6,827	1.9
Educational services	8	0.9	741	5.6	9,285	2.6
Health care and social assistance	89	10.4	2,710	20.5	77,599	22.1
Arts, entertainment & recreation	9	1.1	60	0.5	743	0.2
Accommodation & food services	65	7.6	1,065	8.1	9,865	2.8
Other services (except public administration)	124	14.5	696	5.3	11,640	3.3
Unclassified establishments	3	0.4	3	0.0	52	0.0

<http://censtats.census.gov/cgi-bin/cbpnaic/cbpsect.pl>

Notes: Zero (0) values may indicate missing data or non-calculated amounts.

## Major Employers

Listed below are the major employers for each incorporated city.

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### Burrton, Kansas Major Employers

Employers	Product/Service	Full & Part-Time Employees
Hardwood Supply	Manufacturer	80
Public Schools	Education	65
Southwest & Assoc	Manufacturer	60

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### Halstead, Kansas Major Employers

Employers	Product/Service	Full & Part-Time Employees
USD 440	Education	100
Idaho Timber	Manufacturer	80
Legg Company	Manufacturer	80
Skyline Homes	Construction	60
City of Halstead	Government	50
Valley Hope	Health Care	42
Halstead Health & Rehab	Health Care	40
Farmer's COOP	Agriculture	20
Kansas Learning Center	Education	10



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**Hesston, Kansas Major Employers**

<b>Employers</b>	<b>Product/Service</b>	<b>Full &amp; Part-Time Employees</b>
AGCO Industries	Manufacturer	2000
EXCEL Industries	Manufacturer	500
Schowalter Villa	Health Care	300
UDS 460	Education	150
Hesston College	Education	100
City of Hesston	Government	60
King Construction	Construction	50
Kropf Lumber	Construction	50

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**Newton, Kansas Major Employers**

<b>Employers</b>	<b>Product/Service</b>	<b>Full &amp; Part-Time Employees</b>
UDS 373	Education	850
Norcraft Industries	Manufacturing	652
Newton Medical Center	Health Care	560
Wal-Mart	Mercantile	400
BNSF Railway	Transportation	380
Prairie View Hospital	Health Care	293
Dillons Stores	Mercantile	213
ResCare	Health Care	209
City of Newton	Government	175
Harvey County	Government	166

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**North Newton, Kansas Major Employers**

<b>Employers</b>	<b>Product/Service</b>	<b>Full &amp; Part-Time Employees</b>
Bethel College	Education	180
Hehr International	Manufacturing	110
Kidron Bethel Village	Health Care	90

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**Sedgwick, Kansas Major Employers**

<b>Employers</b>	<b>Product/Service</b>	<b>Full &amp; Part-Time Employees</b>
USD 439	Education	100
Sedgwick Healthcare	Health Care	66

City of Sedgwick	Government	47
Unruh Fabrication	Manufacturing	25
Sedgwick COOP	Agriculture	10

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**Walton, Kansas Major Employers**

Employers	Product/Service	Full & Part-Time Employees
USD 373	Education	15
Mid Kansas COOP	Agriculture	15

**2.1.6 Agriculture**

Agriculture is a major component of the economy of Harvey County. In 2007 – 2008, cattle held the largest share of overall value of production (26.2 percent) based on inventory. Corn, soybeans, sorghum, and to a lesser extent wheat, milk, hay are other important crops in terms of value of production. Table 2.6 below shows the production value, the percentage of county total for the main agricultural products in Harvey County and its rank among all Kansas counties.

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**Table 2.6.** Harvey County Agricultural Production Value, 2007 – 2008

Crop	Percent of Total Annual Production Value	Production Value (\$)	County Rank in State
Cattle	26.2%	23,750,000	89
Corn	21.5%	19,455,800	40
Soybeans	19.3%	17,474,000	17
Sorghum	15.4%	14,002,900	23
Wheat	9.8%	8,845,000	43
Milk	4.0%	3,647,000	9
Hay	3.9%	3,503,700	65

Source: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Kansas/Publications/Annual\\_Statistical\\_Bulletin/County\\_Farm\\_Facts/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Kansas/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/County_Farm_Facts/)

Harvey County ranks 80<sup>th</sup> in the state for the number of acres in production in 2007-2008 (345,000) and 26<sup>th</sup> in number of farms (810). The year 2008 was an exceptional wheat crop following one of the poorest years. Table 2.7 shows the number of acres harvested, yield per acre, and county production total for primary crop types for the period 2006-2008.

**Table 2.7.** Harvey County Crop Production, 2006-2008

Commodity	Year	Harvested (acres)	Yield (bushels/tons)	Total Production (bushels/tons)	Production Value (\$)
Wheat	2006	124,100	43.0	5,278,000	21,715,000
	2007	105,100	14.0	1,420,000	8,845,000
	2008	119,500	50.5	6,008,000	na
	3-year average	116,233	35.8	4,235,333	na
Corn	2006	34,200	113	3,877,800	12,653,800
	2007	34,300	138	4,741,000	19,455,800
	2008	38,300	138	5,290,000	na
	3-year average	35,267	129	4,565,933	na
Sorghum	2006	40,600	60	2,449,300	8,410,000
	2007	44,300	78	3,447,300	14,002,900
	2008	41,700	85	3,532,000	na
	3-year average	42,200	74	3,128,533	na
Soybeans	2006	49,500	35	1,717,700	10,572,000
	2007	48,900	33	1,636,700	17,474,000
	2008	61,000	37	2,244,000	na
	3-year average	53,133	35	1,866,133	na
Hay (tons)	2006	25,200	2,0	51,600	2,946,500
	2007	20,600	1.9	40,000	3,503,700
	2008	20,600	1.9	40,000	na
	3-year average	23,933	2	43,900	na

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), <http://www.nass.usda.gov> Note: 2008 values not available

**Major Rivers and Watersheds:** Harvey County contains a portion of 3 watersheds. They are: Little Arkansas, Upper Cottonwood, and Upper Walnut River. All are considered “low vulnerability” watersheds according to Scorecard.org which is a website that ranks the

environmental impacts based on industrial pollution. The site aggregates reports from state and federal sources to make determinations. There are 3 reservoirs in Harvey County: Harvey County East Park Lake, Patterson Lake, West Lake.

**Streams, rivers, and creeks:** Black Kettle Creek, Blaze Fork, Dry Creek, East Branch Whitewater Creek, East Emma Creek, East Fork Jester Creek, Emma Creek, Gypsum Creek, Kisiwa Creek, Middle Emma Creek, Mud Creek, North Branch Kisiwa Creek, Sand Creek, Turkey Creek, West Branch Whitewater Creek, West Emma Creek, West Fork Jester Creek, West Wildcat Creek, Slate Creek, and Gooseberry Creek.

## **2.2 Jurisdictional Descriptions and Capabilities**

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### **Burrton**

Burrton is located at 38°1'21"N 97°40'20"W (38.022573, -97.672316). According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 0.6 square miles (1.6 km<sup>2</sup>), all of it land. As of the census of 2000, there were 932 people, 361 households, and 251 families residing in the city. The population density was 1,520.9 people per square mile (589.9/km<sup>2</sup>). There were 361 households out of which 33.0% had children under the age of 18 living with them. The average household size was 2.58 and the average family size was 3.08. In the city, the population was spread out with 28.2% under the age of 18, 10.4% from 18 to 24, 28.8% from 25 to 44, 19.5% from 45 to 64, and 13.1% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 34 years. The median income for a household in the city was \$33,646, and the median income for a family was \$37,174. The per capita income for the city was \$14,835. About 9.9% of families and 11.6% of the population were below the poverty line.

### **Land Use and Development Trends**

Burrton's downtown has several businesses which include the city auditorium, city offices, Burrton ambulance department, post office, Dole Senior Center, State Bank of Burrton, Ruth Dole Memorial Library, Hair Hut, American Legion Post and the police department with city chambers. Burrton also has three manufacturing businesses which include Steve Lang's Hardwood Supply, Southwest & Associates and Yoder's Ornamental Concrete. There are also businesses in the country that belong to the Burrton business community. Burrton does have two city parks that have playgrounds and shelters. There are no currently no active areas of development.

### **Technical and Fiscal Resources**

The City has few personnel resources available for mitigation projects. They rely on Harvey County officials for emergency management, GIS services and other functions. Burrton does

have a part time building official and contracts with a certified engineering firm for land development and management projects. Burton does have access to Community Development Block Grant funds, capital improvements project funding, and can collect fees for sewer, water, gas and electric service. The City is able to incur debt through general obligation bonds and special tax bonds and is able to withhold spending in hazard-prone zones.

### **Existing Plans and Policies**

Burrton is currently withdrawn from the National Flood Insurance Program. Burrton has a zoning ordinance including a subdivision ordinance and utilizes the county emergency operations plan. The city's fire department has an ISO rating of 6. Burrton is not currently a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### **Other Mitigation Activities**

Currently Burrton has a public awareness campaign regarding the city provided utilities. They rely on the county provided outdoor warning siren system for tornado and other emergencies.

## **Halstead**

Halstead is located at 38°0'4"N 97°30'30"W (38.001036, -97.508239).

According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 1.3 square miles (3.4 km<sup>2</sup>), all of it land. As of the census of 2000, there were 1,873 people, 760 households, and 528 families residing in the city. The population density was 1,438.1 people per square mile. There were 760 households with an average household size of 2.44 and an average family size of 2.98. The median income for a household in the city was \$42,411, and the median income for a family was \$51,458. Males had a median income of \$33,239 versus \$22,554 for females. The per capita income for the city was \$20,252. About 2.2% of families and 5.8% of the population were below the poverty line.

Halstead is a "city of the second class" under Kansas statutes, but has retained the "city of the third class" governance plan that provides for an elected mayor who serves a two-year term, and five council members elected at-large for two- and four-year terms, determined by the vote outcome. Management of the city is delegated to a city administrator, hired by the governing body.

## **Land Use and Development Trends**

Halstead participates in the Harvey County Economic Development Council. According to data provided by City of Halstead administration, land use is as follows: Residential 50%, Agricultural 20%, Commercial 10%, Industrial 10% and Parks / Open Spaces 10%.

The Halstead Industrial Park shares a boundary with the City of Halstead. The park was annexed into the city in the summer of 1997 and the community is in the process of recruiting industry for the park. A site plan is in place and the park is Zoned I-2 for heavy industrial uses. Currently located at the site are the Idaho Timber Corporation, Patrick Industries, Forest Green Storage, Westar substation, Farmers Coop anhydrous station, and E&V Motors. In 2006 Sem Materials finished construction of a new asphalt blending facility, which is located in the northeast corner of the park. The development plan calls for all utilities to be provided to the perimeter of the industrial park. The Westar substation, which is located at the site, guarantees ample electricity for most any industrial requirement. Halstead is committed to increasing its industrial base.

As the City of Halstead grows as a result of increased industrial growth, there is some concern regarding the encroachment of the urban area on agricultural areas. Wildfires are of concern because almost half of the fire department's personnel are volunteers. The new industrial park has been planned to avoid floodways and is out of the floodplain.

## **Technical and Fiscal Resources**

Halstead has a full-time city administrator and a full-time city engineer. A full-service GIS department is in place. The city administrator also functions as the floodplain manager, but building officials are shared with the City of Newton. The city's fire chief also serves as emergency manager and grant writer for the jurisdiction. Halstead does not have access to community development block grants but can access capitol improvements project funding. They can incur debt through general obligation bonds. They also have the authority to withhold spending in hazard prone areas. The Little Arkansas River Levy project is being funded through general obligation bonds.

## **Existing Plans and Policies**

Halstead participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The City currently has a comprehensive master plan, zoning and subdivision ordinances. A floodplain ordinance also exists and flood elevation certificates are maintained. Other ordinances/programs of importance include: erosion program, site plan review requirements, and a storm water management program. Halstead's fire department has an ISO rating of 5. The jurisdiction has a fully developed local emergency operations plan, a capital improvement plan, and an economic development plan. The City considers code enforcement to be one of its critical functions.

## Other Mitigation Activities

The City of Halstead utilizes the 911 system and has outdoor warning sirens for weather related emergencies. The City also has a marquee system outside the City Hall that is available for use to relay messages to the public, and the City has a local cable television station. Halstead participates the mandatory county-wide recycling program. The City also operates a burn site for yard waste and other vegetation and has a Household Hazardous Waste program. The fire/EMS department also conducts fire prevention programs throughout the year.

## Hesston

Hesston is located at 38°8'21"N 97°25'46"W (38.139097, -97.429550).

According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 2.6 square miles, all of it land. As of the census of 2000, there were 3,509 people, 1,227 households, and 904 families residing in the city. The population density was 1,353.2 people per square mile. There were 1,227 households and the average household size was 2.52 and the average family size was 2.99. The median income for a household in the city was \$42,585, and the median income for a family was \$51,474. Males had a median income of \$39,891 versus \$26,424 for females. The per capita income for the city was \$18,138. About 3.9% of families and 5.5% of the population were below the poverty line.

### Land Use and Development Trends

Hesston participates in the Harvey County Economic Development Development Council. The City is currently experiencing rapid residential and industrial growth. According to the City of Hesston official website <http://www.hesstonks.org>, from 1960-1970, the population of Hesston increased by 75%, due to the boom of the Hesston Corporation. From 1970 to 2000, the population increased again by over 80%. This can be compared to around a 9% growth in population in Newton over the same 40 year time period. During this time the tax base - the total of all assessed valuation in Hesston increased from about \$5,000,000 to well over \$25,000,000. This occurred in spite of the loss from the tax rolls of millions of dollars of manufacturer's inventory during the 1980's.

Hesston's economic development plan relies on several programs to attract businesses and residents, including: tax credits for companies that pay above average wages for their industry, 100% property tax abatement for manufacturing, warehouse, and research and development businesses for up to 10 years. Enterprise zone incentives, a neighborhood revitalization program, and a revolving loan program for private for profit or nonprofit entities that create new jobs or retain existing jobs.

The primary growth is residential. There are six new subdivisions being built. An average of 25 new homes is built in Hesston each year. According to City Administrator John Carder, "Over

the last 10 years since I was appointed as City Administrator, we have grown in size by 40% from 1,534 acres to the current 2,144 acres.” Industrial growth is also occurring on the north side of town.

## **Technical and Fiscal Resources**

Hesston maintains a small full-time staff of city officials. The City relies on Harvey County officials for emergency management services and GIS services as well as other types of services as the need arises. They do have 911 and outdoor warning systems in place currently. Hesston has access to utilize Community Development Block grants, capital improvement funding and the authority to levy taxes for specific purposes. The City can incur debt through the use of general obligation bonds, and special tax bonds. They also have the authority to collect fees for utility services.

## **Existing Plans and Policies**

Hesston participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, however they do not maintain elevation certificates. The City does have a comprehensive master plan, a zoning ordinance, subdivision ordinances, and a floodplain ordinance. They are using building code IBC 2003 and the fire department has an ISO rating of 4. A local emergency operations plan, including a well head protection plan exist. Hesston participates in the National Flood Insurance Program and the latest Flood Insurance Study was published in May 1979.

## **Other Mitigation Activities**

Outdoor warning sirens and 911 are in place in Hesston. The community has an active fire prevention program in schools and public education programs at local critical facilities. Hesston does have a tree trimming program. The street department spends approximately 250 man hours each year taking care of the trees on the city’s right-of-way and in alleys. The street department estimates the annual budget for this work is \$15,000.

## **Newton**

Newton is located at 38°2’39”N 97°20’51”W (38.044089, -97.347597).

According to the City of Newton, Kansas, the city has a total area of 11.73 square miles (30.4 km<sup>2</sup>), all land with the exception of Sand Creek and several small tributaries. As of the census of 2000, there were 17,190 people, 6,851 households, and 4,610 families residing in the city. The population density was 1,794.0 people per square mile. There were 7,277 housing units at an average density of 759.5/sq mi. There were 6,851 households and the average household size was 2.43 and the average family size was 2.99. The median income for a household in the city was \$38,236, and the median income for a family was \$45,703. The per capita income for



the city was \$18,529. About 5.1% of families and 7.9% of the population were below the poverty line.

## **Land Use and Development Trends**

The City of Newton participates on the Harvey County Economic Development Council. The City has an economic development plan and utilizes its website to keep citizens informed of projects that are underway by the city. These activities include community development activities. Included on the current list of these activities are: preparation of a south side strategic development plan, hotel/conference center development, downtown revitalization program, neighborhood revitalization programs. The website also tracks Department of Public Works Improvement Project status. Current projects on that list include: purchase and installation of storm sirens for the south end of Newton, placement of new water towers, and improvements to pumping stations.

Information from the Harvey County Economic Development Council regarding developments in Newton detail both residential and industrial development is underway. South Newton currently has 872 residential lots ready to be developed and this area has the potential for another 625 potential residential lots to be platted. Construction also continues at the airport terminal. Newton has multiple industrial parks and increased development is being seen at all locations. Industrial developments include Park Electrochemical Corp a global manufacturing corporation will be completing a new facility in 2009 that will be approximately 50,000 square feet. Additionally, Standridge Color Corporation is currently constructing a 40,000 square foot warehouse addition to their facility.

Data provided by City of Newton administration indicated current land use categories in Newton as follows: Residential 46%, Agricultural 19%, Parks /Restricted Wildlands 15%, Industrial 10% and Commercial 5%.

## **Technical and Fiscal Resources**

The City of Newton employs several full-time officials. Personnel with GIS skills are available and other personnel are available through Harvey County resources. Newton employs an engineer with knowledge of land development management practice and trained in construction practices related to buildings. The City employs a full-time building official and floodplain manager. The public information manager for the city serves as the grant writer. Newton has access to capital improvements project funding, and the authority to levy taxes for special purposes. They can collect fees for utility services, and include debt through general obligation bonds and special tax bonds. Newton does have the authority to withhold spending in hazard prone zones.

## **Existing Plans and Policies**

Newton participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The City has a comprehensive master plan and zoning and subdivision ordinances. A floodplain ordinance and storm water runoff ordinance are in place. There is an erosion management program and a local emergency operations plan. The county emergency manager serves as the lead for the emergency operations plan. The city does not have a growth management ordinance. The fire department has an ISO rating of 3/9 and the current building code is IBC 2006. Elevation certificates are also maintained by the city. Additionally, there is a water conservation plan in place. Newton participates in the National Flood Insurance Program and the latest Flood Insurance Study was published in December 1989.

## **Other Mitigation Activities**

The local fire department does fire education and conducts prevention activities. Outdoor warning sirens are in place in all areas of Newton and the area is covered by 911. Many other mitigation activities are being accomplished through the capital improvements and economic development program. Newton has a tree-trimming program to prevent loss of electrical power during wind and ice storms. They have an active public education campaign that encompasses fire prevention, basic emergency preparedness, and tornado safety. Newton has a storm water system cleaning program and a public drainage way mowing program, including debris removal to prevent flooding. The outdoor warning sirens in Newton are inspected and tested.

## **North Newton**

North Newton is located at 38°4'26"N 97°20'47"W (38.073865, -97.346355).

According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 0.9 square miles, all of it land. As of the census of 2000, there were 1,522 people, 604 households, and 335 families residing in the city. The population density was 1,775.4 people per square mile. There were 632 housing units at an average density of 737.2/sq mi. There were 604 households and the average household size was 1.89 and the average family size was 2.55. The median income for a household in the city was \$36,974, and the median income for a family was \$52,500. Males had a median income of \$40,769 versus \$23,056 for females. The per capita income for the city was \$18,869. About 3.6% of families and 6.8% of the population were below the poverty line.

## **Land Use and Development Trends**

Growth in residential and industrial development is very slow due to economics. Future growth will be limited by adjacent political boundaries and geographic constraints.

## **Technical and Fiscal Resources**

The City of North Newton has a limited number of full-time city officials and frequently must rely on consultants and nearby jurisdictions and /or Harvey County for support. For example, no full-time GIS official exists in North Newton. The City also relies on Harvey County for local emergency management. A full-time City Administrator and a part-time building official are on staff. The City does not have access to Community Development Block grant funds. They do have capital improvements project funding, and authority to collect fees for utility services. They can also incur debt through general obligation and special tax bonds.

## **Existing Plans and Policies**

North Newton participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. North Newton has a master plan for future land use, and zoning and subdivision ordinances. Site plan review requirements exist. North Newton enforces a floodplain ordinance and the fire department has an ISO rating of 3. While North Newton has a local emergency operations plan, it must rely on Harvey County's Emergency Manager. Water conservation and drought contingency plans exist for North Newton. North Newton participates in the National Flood Insurance Program and the latest Flood Insurance Study was conducted in December 1978.

## **Other Mitigation Activities**

Outdoor warning sirens are in place in North Newton and the area is covered by 911. The community conducts public awareness activities during Tornado Awareness Week. North Newton also has a well head protection program.

## **Sedgwick**

Sedgwick is located at 37°54'59"N 97°25'22"W (37.916409, -97.422820).

According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 1.1 square miles, all land. As of the census of 2000, there were 1,537 people, 545 households, and 424 families residing in the city. The population density was 1,408.8 people per square mile. There were 545 households and the average household size was 2.71 and the average family size was 3.15. The median income for a household in the city was \$44,934, and the median income for a family was \$49,659. The per capita income for the city was \$17,009. About 4.4% of families and 6.2% of the population were below the poverty line.

A portion of Sedgwick is in Sedgwick County rather than Harvey County.

## **Land Use and Development Trends**

There are currently no areas of active residential or industrial development in the City of Sedgwick. Data provided by the jurisdiction indicated the following land use percentages: 75% residential, 15% agricultural, 5% commercial, and 5% industrial.

## **Technical and Fiscal Resources**

The City of Sedgwick has a small of city officials including a city administrator, and city superintendent. The city administrator serves as the floodplain manager and city engineer. The City relies on a contract with the City of Newton for engineering services related to construction practices. No full-time building official is employed by the City. Sedgwick has access to Community Development Block grants; capital improvements project funding and has the authority to collect fees for utility services. They city has the authority to levy taxes for special purposes and to incur debt through the use of general obligation bonds.

## **Existing Plans and Policies**

Sedgwick does participate in the National Flood Insurance Program and a floodplain ordinance exists for the City. The City has a comprehensive master plan and zoning and subdivision ordinances. Site plan review requirements exist. A capital improvement plan and economic development plans are also available to Sedgwick officials. The local fire department has an ISO rating of 5 and there is a local emergency operations plan.

## **Other Mitigation Activities**

Sedgwick participates in the Sedgwick County multi-jurisdiction hazard mitigation plan and has created a local disaster plan. Public education programs regarding water conservation, general disaster preparedness, flooding, and fire safety have all been conducted recently. The City is also covered by sirens and the 911 system.

## **Walton**

Walton is located at 38°7'3"N 97°15'23"W (38.117601, -97.256478).

According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 0.2 square miles, all of it land. As of the census of 2000, there were 284 people, 109 households, and 79 families residing in the city. The population density was 1,162.6 people per square mile. There were 109 households and the average household size was 2.61 and the average family size was 3.10. The median income for a household in the city was \$34,375, and the median income for a family was \$39,500. Males had a median income of \$30,781 versus \$18,882 for females. The per capita

income for the city was \$16,679. About 9.1% of families and 11.1% of the population were below the poverty line.

## **Land Use and Development Trends**

There are currently no areas of active residential or industrial development in the City of Walton.

## **Technical and Fiscal Resources**

The City of Walton does not employ large numbers of full-time city officials and must rely on other jurisdictions. For example, engineering services are contracted to the City of Newton, and GIS services through Harvey County when needed. The Walton City Clerk also serves as the grant writer and full-time building official for the community. The City Superintendent serves as fire chief and emergency manager. Walton does have access to Community Development Block Grants and capital improvements project funding. They have the ability to levy taxes for utilities and can incur debt through general obligation and special tax bonds.

## **Existing Plans and Policies**

Walton does not participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. The fire department ISO rating is 6. The City does have a comprehensive master plan and zoning and subdivision ordinances. Site plan review requirement exist. Walton does have a capital improvement plan, but does not currently have an economic development plan.

## **Other Mitigation Activities**

Outdoor warning systems, including voice storm alert are in place throughout Walton. A monthly “newspaper” addresses hazards throughout the year. Public education information is also mailed out with the utility bills. The gas system has a mandated public awareness plan and a hazard mitigation plan.

## **Harvey County, including Unincorporated Areas**

Unincorporated Harvey County consists of 15 townships. They include: Alta, Burrton, Darlington, Emma, Garden, Halstead, Highland, Lake, Lakin, Macon, Newton, Pleasant, Richland, Sedgwick, and Walton. Townships were asked to complete data collection forms for this plan and their information is included in this section for completeness. Twelve townships provided information.

## **Technical and Fiscal Resources**

Harvey County utilizes the County Administrator / County Commissioner form of government. There are 3 elected County Commissioners. The County Clerk, County Treasurer, Sheriff, County Attorney and Register of Deeds are also elected officials within the County. Appointed offices include County Administrator, County Appraiser, Communications, Data Processing, Department on Aging, Health Department, Environmental Department, Noxious Weeds, Planning and Zoning, Road and Bridge, Emergency Management and Solid Waste. The County Planning and Zoning Director serves as the floodplain manager. This department in conjunction with the County Appraiser's Office maintains GIS data regarding land use, and hazard areas. The data is currently linked to assessor's data, but no building footprints are available, and critical facilities have yet to be mapped. The County has access to Capital Improvements funding, can collect fees for utilities, and has the authority to levy special taxes. The county currently assesses impact fees for road impacts.

## **Existing Plans and Policies**

Harvey County maintains a master plan, capital improvements plan, economic development plan and emergency management plan. Additionally the county supports a floodplain ordinance, zoning ordinances, and subdivision ordinances. Elevation certificates are maintained by the county. No building code is in force in the unincorporated county. Harvey County is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program and the latest flood insurance study was conducted on September 1998. Effective Flood Insurance Rate Maps are of that same date. New DFIRMS are in progress, but are not expected to be completed before mid to late 2010.

## **Other Mitigation Activities**

Public Awareness Activities are conducted by the Emergency Management Dept which include programs on flooding, winter storms, tornadoes and other weather safety information. Exercises are conducted periodically to enhance management and response activities for all emergency services and volunteer agencies. The Noxious Weed Dept conducts an ongoing program on tree trimming throughout the county. The Road & Bridge Dept removes debris along the bridges as it accumulates and currently is planning to remove the debris after the recent flooding. They also conduct snow removal on county maintained roads.

## **Additional Information – Alta Township**

Alta township owns road maintenance equipment and two buildings. They also collect an impact fee of \$2,000 per impact for new development. The township does not maintain a full-time staff and relies on Harvey County for technical resources. The Burrton consolidated fire department provides fire protection to the jurisdiction.

### **Additional Information – Darlington Township**

Darlington township has access to capital improvements funding and has the ability to collect impact fees for new development. The township's main functions are maintenance of roads and culverts within the township. They rely on the City of Newton for fire protection. There are no outdoor warning sirens in the township. Part-time employees are utilized to perform road maintenance procedures.

### **Additional Information – Emma Township**

Emma Township relies on Hesston for fire protection. The township relies largely on Harvey County officials for most services since it does not maintain full-time township officials. This township relies on Harvey County for building inspections. The township does have the authority to levy taxes for specific purposes and can assess impact fees for new development. A subdivision ordinance exists within Emma township. The township does collect a \$2,000 impact fee for new development. They have one part-time employee and the township is managed by 3 board members. Currently there are no outdoor warning sirens in the township area.

### **Additional Information – Garden Township**

Garden Township is provided fire protection by McPherson county Fire District #7. They rely on Harvey County for most services and other technical resources. There are no warning sirens in the township. The township has the authority to levy taxes for specific purposes and utilize road impact fees for road maintenance and improvements. The township does own some road maintenance equipment.

### **Additional Information – Lake Township**

In Lake township land management and planning is administered by the Harvey County Planning and Zoning Department. Township officials consist of a township trustee, township treasurer, and township secretary. Monthly public meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month. The township has the authority to levy taxes for specific purposes. They also collect impact fees for new development. A total of \$3-5,000 is spent annually on a tree trimming program. There are no emergency warning sirens in the township area. A part-time employee assists with road maintenance. Fire protection is provided by the Burrton Consolidated Fire Department and the Mt. Hope Fire Department.

### **Additional Information – Lakin Township**

Lakin township owns road maintenance equipment. They have been affected in the past by flood and ice storms. The township relies largely on Harvey County for most of its technical services such as engineering and building inspection. The City of Wichita has a public water supply located in the township which consists of a well field with multiple water wells. Lakin township does have one part-time employee that assists with road maintenance issues. There is fire

protection contract with the City of Halstead and in the area the fire department has an ISO rating of 10.

### **Additional Information – Macon Township**

Macon township employees one road operator and has a township board. The township does own warning lights and barricades. The township levees impact fees for new development of \$2,000 for 5 years. If funds are not needed, then the fees are refunded. The township also has the authority to levy taxes for special purposes and incur debts through private activities. Fire protection is provided by the City of Newton and the Halstead Fire Department.

### **Additional Information – Newton Township**

Newton township owns a machine shed and road maintenance equipment. They have been affected in the past by flood and ice storms. The township relies on the City of Newton for most of its services, including fire protection. The township employs one part-time person.

### **Additional Information – Pleasant Township**

Pleasant township contains a county park and several community buildings. The township has a building. The township also contains the Harvey County East Lake and dam. A grain elevator and Gracehill church are also within the township. There are no emergency warning siren in the township and fire protection is provided by the Whitewater River Consolidated Fire Department and Harvey County Fire District #1. This is of concern as a daycare is located within the township. The township is experiencing slow growth and currently has less than \$500,000 a year in new development. Pleasant township has a tree-trimming mitigation program currently in place, but needs to expand the program beyond its current capacities.

### **Additional Information – Richland Township**

Richland township relies largely on Harvey County for most services since it does not maintain full-time staff. Whitewater River Consolidated Fire Department provides fire protection for the township.

### **Additional Information – Sedgwick Township**

Sedgwick township contracts for fire protection services from the City of Sedgwick. The fire department has an ISO rating of 9 in the area. Sedgwick township relies on Harvey County for its zoning ordinances and emergency operations plans. The township has three board members and 1 part-time employee. Outdoor warning systems do not exist in the township. Sedgwick township has the authority to levy taxes for specific purposes and collect impact fees for new development.



### Additional Information – Walton Township

Walton township relies heavily on Harvey County for its services. The township does own some road maintenance equipment and employees one part-time employee. There are no outdoor warning sirens in the township. The township does have the authority to levy taxes for specific purposes and to assess impact fees for new development.

### Additional Information – Harvey County Public Health

Harvey County Public Health maintains a number of plans relevant to hazard mitigation including: a Continuity of Operations Plan, a mass antibiotic dispensing plan, a community disease containment and a biological incident annex. The public health department receives funding from federal preparedness grants and county tax dollars. They have an active education program for all types of hazards. Of concern to the health department is the increasing number of Spanish speaking persons in the county and maintaining the ability to communicate effectively with the populations about all-hazards preparedness.

### Additional Information – Harvey County Parks Department

The Harvey County Parks Department is responsible for managing three large parks. Camp Hawk is located 2 miles south of Newton. It is a 40 acre park with a 4 acre fishing lake. East Park is 1300 acre park located in eastern Harvey County on the edge of the Flint Hills, 6 miles from Newton. There is a 314 acre tree lined lake. Harvey County West Park is located 13 miles west and 4 mile north of Newton and is the original Harvey County Park. The 310 acre park is heavily wooded and offers a 16 acre fishing lake. Each of the parks is patrolled by park rangers. Warning systems within the parks are limited to park patrols and there are no community shelters in the park areas.

### Harvey County Watershed / Drainage Districts

Harvey County is comprised of 4 drainage districts. Two submitted additional information on the data collection forms summarized below.

Drainage District	Regulatory Tools	Personnel Resources	Fiscal Assets	Public Education / Mitigation Activities
Alta Township Drainage Dist #2	Capital Improvements Plan	Board Members Only	Levy Taxes for basic upkeep, can raise mill levy if needed	Culvert maintenance, tree removal, bank stabilization
Drainage Dist #3	None	None	None	Road maintenance

## Harvey County School Districts

There are five (5) Unified School Districts (USD) active in Harvey County. They include USD 369 serving Burrton, USD 373 serving Newton, USD 439 serving Sedgwick, USD 440 serving Halstead, and USD 460 serving Hesston. All of the school districts agreed to participate in the planning process except for USD 369. Several calls and letters were sent to the USD in an attempt to explain the ramifications of failure to participate in the planning process. School officials chose not to participate. The results of data provided by the other 4 districts are listed below.

School District	Regulatory Tools	Public Safety on Site	Financial Resources	Education and Mitigation Activities
USD 373	Shelter in Place, Evacuation, Weapons Policy, Special Event Plans, Site Security, Communicable Disease	N/A	Capital Improvement, State/Federal Funds	Routine fire, tornado and evacuation drills. Resources mapped in 2008.
USD 439	Shelter in Place, Evacuation, Site Security, Weapons Policy, Sample collection Protocols	Not Staffed	State / Federal Funds	Routine fire, tornado and evacuation drills.
USD 440	Weapons Policy, Shelter in Place, Evacuation	Sufficient	General Obligation Bonds, Capital Improvement Funding, State / Federal Funds	Routine fire, tornado and evacuation drills. Safe rooms at each school 2004, security systems 2000, Emergency Notification for one elementary school 2004
USD 460	Shelter in Place, Evacuation, Site Security, Special Event Plans, Weapons Policy, Chain of Custody	Sufficient	Capital Improvements, State / Federal Funds, Local funds	Routine fire, tornado and evacuation drills, resources mapped in 8/2008

## Rural Electric Cooperatives

The Butler Rural Electric Cooperative participated in the planning process by attending all HMPC meetings and providing data and actions related to Utility Infrastructure. The Cooperative serves 598 separate locations in Harvey County, including the Newton Airport. They have 3 substations in Harvey County: Whitewater substation which has a 3750 KVA transformer, Harvey County substation which has 500 and 2500 KVA transformers, and Elbing substation which has a 3750 transformer. The Cooperative supports 44 miles of three phase power lines, 4 miles of two phase power lines, and 70 miles of single phase power lines in Harvey County. They also have 9.25 miles of transmission line.

## Harvey County Fire Districts

There are two (2) fire districts participating the development of the mitigation plan. They include Fire Districts #1, and #5. Larger cities in Harvey County have local fire fighting capabilities.

Fire District	ISO Rating	911 / Warning System	Firewise	Access to Funding	Mitigation Activities
Fire District #1	6	Yes	No	Authority to levee taxes for specific purposes	Fire safety awareness programs
Fire District #5	6/7/10	No	No	Capital improvement, CDBG, Special tax bonds, authority to levee taxes for specific purposes	Fire Prevention K-4 students, preparing burn plan for the district

**Table 2.8.** Table x.x. Summary of Existing Mitigation-Related Plans and Policies in Harvey County

Capability	Burton	Halstead	Hesston	Newton	North Newton	Unincorp County	Sedgwick	Walton
Master/Comprehensive Plan	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Emergency Operations Plan	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Economic Development Plan	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Capital Improvements Plan	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Building Code	IBC	IBC	IBC	IBC	IBC		IBC	IBC
Building Code Year	2003	2006	2003	2006	2006		2006	2006
Fire Department ISO Rating	6	5	4	3/9	3	9/10	5	6
Storm water Management Ordinance	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Floodplain Management Ordinance	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Zoning Ordinance	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Subdivision Ordinance	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Erosion Management Ordinance	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N
National Flood Insurance Participant	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Elevation Certificates Maintained	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N

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