**Leavenworth, Kansas**

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| **Leavenworth, Kansas** |
| — [**City**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City) — |
| Downtown Leavenworth |
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| **Seal** |

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| Motto: The first city of Kansas |
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| U.S. Census Map |
| Coordinates: [39°18′40″N 94°55′21″W﻿ / ﻿39.31111°N 94.9225°W﻿ / 39.31111; -94.9225](http://toolserver.org/~geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Leavenworth,_Kansas&params=39_18_40_N_94_55_21_W_type:city(35251)_region:US-KS) |
| [**Country**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries) | [United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) |
| [**State**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/US_state) | [Kansas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas) |
| [**County**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_counties_in_Kansas) | [Leavenworth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leavenworth_County%2C_Kansas) |
| **Founded** | 1854 |
| [**Incorporated**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Municipal_corporation) | 1855 |
| **Area** |
| **• Total** | 23.5 sq mi (60.9 km2) |
| **• Land** | 23.5 sq mi (60.9 km2) |
| **• Water** | 0.0 sq mi (0.1 km2) |
| **Elevation** | 840 ft (256 m) |
| **Population** ([2010](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Census%2C_2010))  |
| **• Total** | 35,251 |
| **• Density** | 1,500/sq mi (580/km2) |
| [**Time zone**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_zone) | [Central (CST)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Time_Zone_%28North_America%29) ([UTC-6](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTC-6)) |
| **• Summer (**[**DST**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daylight_saving_time)**)** | CDT ([UTC-5](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTC-5)) |
| [**ZIP codes**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ZIP_code) | 66043, 66048 |
| [**Area code(s)**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telephone_numbering_plan) | [913](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Area_code_913) |
| [**FIPS code**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Information_Processing_Standard) | 20-39000 |
| [**GNIS**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_Names_Information_System) **feature ID** | 0478411 |
| **Website** | [www.LVKS.org](http://www.LVKS.org/) |

**Leavenworth** is the largest [city](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City) in and the [county seat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_seat) of [Leavenworth County](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leavenworth_County%2C_Kansas), [Kansas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas), [United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States). It lies within the [Kansas City, Missouri](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_City%2C_Missouri) [Metropolitan Area](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_City_Metropolitan_Area). Located in the northeast portion of the state, it is on the west bank of the [Missouri River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missouri_River). As of the [2010 census](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_United_States_Census), the city population was 35,251.

**History**

Leavenworth, founded in 1854, was the first incorporated city in Kansas. The city is located south of [Fort Leavenworth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Leavenworth), the oldest active Army post west of the [Mississippi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mississippi_River), which was established in 1827 by Colonel [Henry Leavenworth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Leavenworth). Leavenworth is the home of many detention centers and prisons, including the [Leavenworth federal prison](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Penitentiary%2C_Leavenworth) for which the city is most famous, and several smaller jails and prisons, including the city and county jails, a Federal Detention Center, and the military's maximum security prison, the [United States Disciplinary Barracks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Disciplinary_Barracks). The very large Kansas State Penitentiary and a state medium security prison are also located nearby.

Beneath the city appears to be another one entirely: a recently publicized underground series of "vaults" is thought to have been used for commerce, fugitives, or slaves.

Leavenworth is also home to [University of Saint Mary (Kansas)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Saint_Mary_%28Kansas%29), operated by the [Sisters of Charity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sisters_of_Charity).

**Geography**

2005 [KDOT](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_Department_of_Transportation) map of Leavenworth County showing Leavenworth and surrounding communities ([map legend](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File%3AKansas_official_transportation_map_legend.png))

Leavenworth is located at

WikiMiniAtlas

[39°18′40″N 94°55′21″W﻿ / ﻿39.31111°N 94.9225°W﻿ / 39.31111; -94.9225](http://toolserver.org/~geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Leavenworth,_Kansas&params=39_18_40_N_94_55_21_W_type:city) (39.3111112, -94.9224637) at an elevation of 840 feet (256 m). The city lies on the west bank of the [Missouri River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missouri_River) in the [Dissected Till Plains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dissected_Till_Plains) region of North America's Central Lowlands. Four small tributaries of the river flow generally east through the city. From north to south, these are Quarry Creek, Corral Creek, Three Mile Creek, and Five Mile Creek. Located in northeastern Kansas at the junction of [U.S. Route 73](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._Route_73) and Kansas Highway 92 (K-92), Leavenworth is 25 miles (41 km) northwest of downtown [Kansas City](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_City%2C_Missouri), 145 miles (233 km) south-southeast of [Omaha](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omaha%2C_Nebraska), and 165 miles (266 km) northeast of [Wichita](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wichita%2C_Kansas).

According to the [United States Census Bureau](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Census_Bureau), the city has a total area of 23.5 mi² (60.9 km²), of which 23.5 mi² (60.9 km²) is land and 0.04 mi² (0.1 km²), or 0.09%, is water. [Fort Leavenworth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Leavenworth) occupies the northern half of the city's area.

Leavenworth is a [suburb](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suburb) of [Kansas City, Missouri](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_City%2C_Missouri) and thus part of the [Kansas City metropolitan area](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_City_metropolitan_area). It borders another suburb, [Lansing, Kansas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lansing%2C_Kansas), to the south.

**Climate**

Lying in the transition zone between North America's [humid subtropical climate (Köppen *Cfa*)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humid_subtropical_climate) and [humid continental climate (Köppen *Dfa*)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humid_continental_climate), Leavenworth experiences hot, humid summers and cold, drier winters. The average temperature in Leavenworth is 55 °F (13 °C). Over the course of a year, temperatures range from an average low of 19 °F (−7 °C) in January to an average high of 90 °F (32 °C) in July. The high temperature reaches or exceeds 90 °F (32 °C) an average of 43 days per year and reaches or exceeds 100 °F (38 °C) an average of four days per year. The minimum temperature falls below the freezing point 32 °F (0 °C) an average of 107 days per year. Typically, the first fall freeze occurs by the third week of October, and the last spring freeze occurs by the second week of April. In an average year, Leavenworth experiences 89.7 days with measurable precipitation and receives 42.97 inches (1,091 mm) of precipitation. Annual snowfall averages 16.1 inches (41 cm). Measurable snowfall occurs an average of eight days per year with at least an inch of snow being received on five of those days. Snow depth of at least an inch occurs an average of 15 days a year. On average, January is the coldest month, July is the hottest month, and June is the wettest month. The hottest temperature recorded in Leavenworth was 110 °F (43 °C) in 1954; the coldest temperature recorded was -27 °F (-33 °C) in 1989.

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| **Climate data for Leavenworth, Kansas, USA** |
| **Month** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** | **May** | **Jun** | **Jul** | **Aug** | **Sep** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Year** |
| **Record high °F (°C)** | 74(23) | 81(27) | 87(31) | 93(34) | 97(36) | 106(41) | 110(43) | 108(42) | 104(40) | 95(35) | 84(29) | 70(21) | 110(43) |
| **Average high °F (°C)** | 39(4) | 45(7) | 56(13) | 67(19) | 76(24) | 85(29) | 90(32) | 88(31) | 80(27) | 68(20) | 54(12) | 41(5) | 65.8(18.8) |
| **Daily mean °F (°C)** | 30(−1) | 35(2) | 45(7) | 55(13) | 65(18) | 74(23) | 79(26) | 78(26) | 68(20) | 57(14) | 44(7) | 32(0) | 55(12.9) |
| **Average low °F (°C)** | 19(−7) | 24(−4) | 33(1) | 43(6) | 54(12) | 63(17) | 69(21) | 67(19) | 57(14) | 46(8) | 33(1) | 23(−5) | 44.3(6.8) |
| **Record low °F (°C)** | −17(−27) | −19(−28) | −10(−23) | 4(−16) | 27(−3) | 42(6) | 45(7) | 41(5) | 30(−1) | 18(−8) | −2(−19) | −27(−33) | −27(−33) |
| [**Precipitation**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Precipitation_%28meteorology%29) **inches (mm)** | 1.03(26.2) | 1.53(38.9) | 2.74(69.6) | 4.04(102.6) | 5.38(136.7) | 5.92(150.4) | 5.20(132.1) | 4.49(114) | 4.82(122.4) | 3.78(96) | 2.45(62.2) | 1.59(40.4) | 42.97(1,091.4) |
| **Snowfall inches (cm)** | 4.4(11.2) | 5.3(13.5) | 1.7(4.3) | 0(0) | 0(0) | 0(0) | 0(0) | 0(0) | 0(0) | 0.2(0.5) | 0.7(1.8) | 3.8(9.7) | 16.1(40.9) |
| **Avg. precipitation days (≥ 0.01 in)** | 4.7 | 5.1 | 7.9 | 8.9 | 11.2 | 9.9 | 7.5 | 8.0 | 7.6 | 7.3 | 6.4 | 5.2 | 89.7 |
| **Avg. snowy days (≥ 0.1 in)** | 2.3 | 2.3 | 0.8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.4 | 2.1 | 7.9 |
| *Source:* [*National Weather Service*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Weather_Service)*;* [*The Weather Channel*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Weather_Channel) |

**Demographics**

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| **Historical populations** |
| **Census** | **Pop.** |  | **%±** |
| [**1860**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1860_United_States_Census) | 7,429 |  | — |
| [**1870**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1870_United_States_Census) | 17,873 |  | 140.6% |
| [**1880**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1880_United_States_Census) | 16,546 |  | −7.4% |
| [**1890**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1890_United_States_Census) | 19,768 |  | 19.5% |
| [**1900**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1900_United_States_Census) | 20,735 |  | 4.9% |
| [**1910**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1910_United_States_Census) | 19,363 |  | −6.6% |
| [**1920**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1920_United_States_Census) | 16,912 |  | −12.7% |
| [**1930**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1930_United_States_Census) | 17,466 |  | 3.3% |
| [**1940**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1940_United_States_Census) | 19,220 |  | 10.0% |
| [**1950**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1950_United_States_Census) | 20,579 |  | 7.1% |
| [**1960**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1960_United_States_Census) | 22,052 |  | 7.2% |
| [**1970**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1970_United_States_Census) | 25,147 |  | 14.0% |
| [**1980**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1980_United_States_Census) | 33,656 |  | 33.8% |
| [**1990**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1990_United_States_Census) | 38,495 |  | 14.4% |
| [**2000**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2000_United_States_Census) | 35,420 |  | −8.0% |
| [**2010**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_United_States_Census) | 35,251 |  | −0.5% |
| [U.S. Decennial Census](http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/decennial/) |

As of the [2010 census](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_United_States_Census), there were 35,251 people, 12,256 households, and 8,129 families residing in the city. The [population density](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Population_density) was 1,500 people per square mile (579.2/km²). There were 13,670 housing units at an average density of 581.7 per square mile (224.5/km²). The racial makeup of the city was 75.4% [White](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_American), 15.1% [African American](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_American), 1.8% [Asian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asian_American), 0.9% [American Indian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States), 0.2% [Pacific Islander](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Islander), 2.0% from some other race, and 4.6% from two or more races. 8.1% of the population was [Hispanic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hispanic_%28U.S._Census%29) or [Latino](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latino_%28U.S._Census%29) of any race.

There were 12,256 households out of which 37.8% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 48.7% were married couples living together, 4.4% had a male householder with no wife present, 13.2% had a female householder with no husband present, and 33.7% were non-families. 28.7% of all households were made up of individuals, and 9.5% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.55, and the average family size was 3.15.

In the city, the population was spread out with 26.0% under the age of 18, 8.5% from 18 to 24, 31.6% from 25 to 44, 23.9% from 45 to 64, and 10.0% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 34.8 years. For every 100 females, there were 116.8 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 119.1 males age 18 and over.

The median income for a household in the city was $49,823, and the median income for a family was $61,576. Males had a median income of $49,693 versus $30,888 for females. The [per capita income](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Per_capita_income) for the city was $23,102. About 9.8% of families and 12.9% of the population were below the [poverty line](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poverty_line), including 16.4% of those under age 18 and 10.0% of those age 65 or over.

**Economy**

As of 2010, 58.6% of the population over the age of 16 was in the labor force. 7.8% was in the armed forces, and 50.8% was in the civilian labor force with 47.0% being employed and 3.8% unemployed. The composition, by occupation, of the employed civilian labor force was: 34.5% in management, business, science, and arts; 22.8% in sales and office occupations; 23.2% in service occupations; 8.4% in natural resources, construction, and maintenance; 11.0% in production, transportation, and material moving. The three industries employing the largest percentages of the working civilian labor force were: educational services, health care, and social assistance (22.7%); public administration (15.6%); and retail trade (13.0%). The U.S. military at [Fort Leavenworth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Leavenworth) is the city's largest employer, employing roughly 5,600 people, followed by [Leavenworth Public Schools](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leavenworth_Public_Schools) and defense contractor [Northrop Grumman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northrop_Grumman).

The cost of living in Leavenworth is below average; compared to a U.S. average of 100, the cost of living index for the city is 87.1. As of 2010, the median home value in the city was $124,200, the median selected monthly owner cost was $1,282 for housing units with a mortgage and $428 for those without, and the median gross rent was $762.

**Government**

Leavenworth City Hall

Leavenworth is a [city of the first class](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas#Important_cities_and_towns) with a [commission-manager](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Council-manager_government) form of government. The [city commission](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City_commission) is the city's governing body and consists of five members, including the [mayor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mayor) and the [mayor pro-tem](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pro_tempore). It sets city policies, adopts the city government's annual operating budget, and appoints city boards, commissions, and officials, including the [city manager](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City_manager). Commissioners are elected to either four-year or two-year terms, one is appointed to serve as mayor, and another to serve as mayor pro-tem. The commission meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The city manager is the city's chief executive, responsible for the day-to-day administration of the city government. The manager supervises all city government departments and employees, prepares and proposes the annual operating budget, and recommends policies to the city commission.

Leavenworth lies within [Kansas's 2nd U.S. Congressional District](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas%27s_2nd_congressional_district). For the purposes of representation in the [Kansas Legislature](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_Legislature), the city is located in the 5th district of the [Kansas Senate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_Senate) and the 40th, 41st, and 42nd districts of the [Kansas House of Representatives](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_House_of_Representatives).

Leavenworth is the home of a [Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy (CMOP)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consolidated_Mail_Outpatient_Pharmacy_%28CMOP%29). It is part of an initiative by the [United States Department of Veterans Affairs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Department_of_Veterans_Affairs) to provide mail order prescriptions to veterans using computerization at strategic locations throughout the United States.

**Education**

**Primary and secondary education**

[Leavenworth Public Schools](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leavenworth_Public_Schools) USD 453

**Parochial and private schools**

* [Xavier Elementary School](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Xavier_Elementary_School&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Immaculata High School](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immaculata_High_School_%28Kansas%29)

**Media**

The [*Leavenworth Times*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leavenworth_Times) is the city's daily newspaper with a circulation of roughly 5,500 copies. In addition, the U.S. Army publishes the *Fort Leavenworth Lamp*, a weekly newspaper covering local military news.

Leavenworth is in the [Kansas City radio and television markets](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Media_in_Kansas_City%2C_Missouri). Two radio stations are licensed to the city: [KKLO](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KKLO) broadcasts from Leavenworth on 1410 AM, playing a [Religious](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_radio) format; [KQRC-FM](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KQRC-FM) broadcasts from [Mission, Kansas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mission%2C_Kansas) on 98.9 FM, playing a [Rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Active_rock) format.

**Notable people**

*For notable prisoners at the Leavenworth federal penitentiary, see* [*United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Penitentiary%2C_Leavenworth)*.*

Notable individuals who were born in and/or have lived in Leavenworth include:

* [Hilda Clark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hilda_Clark), American actress and model
* [Buffalo Bill Cody](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buffalo_Bill_Cody), soldier, buffalo hunter and wild west showman
* [Harold Coyle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harold_Coyle), author
* [Robert E. Davis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_E._Davis), [Kansas Supreme Court](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_Supreme_Court) Justice
* [Neil Dougherty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neil_Dougherty), basketball coach
* [Melissa Etheridge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melissa_Etheridge), musician
* [Fred Harvey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fred_Harvey_%28entrepreneur%29), prolific restaurateur
* [Wild Bill Hickok](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wild_Bill_Hickok), soldier, lawman, gunfighter
* [Ron Logan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ron_Logan), former Executive Vice President of [Walt Disney Entertainment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Walt_Disney_Company)
* [Sean Malto](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sean_Malto), Pro Skateboarder
* [Wayne Simien](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wayne_Simien), basketball player
* [Randy Sparks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Randy_Sparks), Musician, Entertainer (New Christy Minstrels)

**Sister cities**

* [Wagga Wagga, New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wagga_Wagga%2C_New_South_Wales), [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia)
* [Ōmihachiman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C5%8Cmihachiman), [Japan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japan)

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