

Population Characteristics of City of Waukesha Residents by Waukesha Metrolift Service Area

At the request of the City of Waukesha, Commission staff conducted a comparison of City of Waukesha residents inside and outside the existing 0.75-mile service area of Waukesha Metrolift. In addition to estimating total population, the number seniors (aged 65+) and people with disabilities¹ were considered in this analysis.

According to the 2020 Decennial Census, the total population for the City of Waukesha is 71,158. Commission staff utilized the Metrolift service area boundaries to estimate the City of Waukesha population inside and outside the 0.75-mile paratransit service area. Using census block data, it is estimated that about 2,400, or three percent, of City of Waukesha residents are located outside the 0.75-mile service area.

Commission staff also estimated the number of seniors and people with disabilities inside the City of Waukesha boundary but outside the 0.75-mile Metrolift service area using aerial photography and geospatial software. Commission staff used data from the American Community Survey to estimate the percentage of seniors and people with disabilities within City limits but outside the 0.75-mile Metrolift service area. Based on an analysis of 2015-2019 data, seniors and people with disabilities each comprised approximately ten percent of the City's population. These percentages were then applied to the City's population outside the 0.75-mile paratransit service area, which was estimated to be about 2,400. This methodology assumes that seniors and people with disabilities are distributed evenly throughout the City, and therefore these numbers should be considered only as estimates. As a result of this methodology, of the total City population outside the paratransit service area, approximately 250 were seniors and 250 were people with disabilities.

¹ The U.S. Census defines "people with disabilities" to include individuals who had serious difficulty living independently or a serious sensory, cognitive, or ambulatory disability. This estimate includes individuals aged five and over.