



# HEALTH PROFESSIONAL UNDERSERVED AREAS REPORT

## Kansas Primary Care and Rural Health

Information provided for Calendar Year 2019





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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Bureau of Local and Rural Health was established in 1989, to assist communities in ensuring access to primary and preventive health care services for all Kansas residents. The office has since expanded and is now housed in the Bureau of Community Health Systems (BCHS), and the Community Health Access Section. Among the earliest priorities was the identification of areas of the state that had health professional shortages or populations that were medically underserved. Kansas is a state with vast rural and frontier areas that lack adequate medical care. Although efforts have been successful in increasing the total number of health care professionals, the long-standing factors that contribute to professional shortages, plus the new pressures of a changing health care marketplace, perpetuate uneven distribution of these essential health care professionals across the state. As a result, being underserved or having too few professionals for area residents continues to be a predominantly rural problem. The inability to obtain needed health care and preventive services also affects uninsured and low-income Kansas residents in all areas of the state, including the largest cities.

Individuals and families with economic barriers to health care are found in almost all communities in Kansas.

The SOPC-RH administers a number of programs created to address these issues, such as state and federal scholarships, loan repayment or forgiveness programs, and federal agency sponsorship of international medical graduates; other programs, available directly through federal agencies, include payment enhancements for rural health clinics (RHCs) and Medicare bonus payments to make health care practice sites financially viable in rural communities. Consistent in all these programs are the eligibility requirement that a service area, usually a county, meet specific criteria to be designated a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) or a Medically Underserved Area (MUA). This report explains the various types of health care professional shortage designations and provides data on 2019 SOPC-RH activities toward reducing these shortages.

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## HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS (HPSAs)

A Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) is a group of counties, a single or partial county, or facility designation that indicates an area that lacks sufficient health care professionals in primary care, dental or mental health to meet the health care needs of the population. Thirty-six federal programs use HPSA designations to identify areas of greater need and allot resources accordingly. These shortage areas may be geographic, population or facility based. A few of the programs that utilize HPSA designations include:

- National Health Service Corps (NHSC)
  - NHSC Sites
  - Scholarships
  - Student 2 Service
- Loan Repayment Program (NHSC LRP)
- Nurse Corps
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare Incentive Payment
- CMS Rural Health Clinic Program
- Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program
- Medicare incentive payments for physicians
- Higher “customary charges” for new physicians
- Special consideration and funding priority for Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)
- Kansas State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)

Each HPSA designation is assigned a numeric score from 0 to 25 for primary care and mental health, and 0 to 26 for dental health, based on health care need and access to care. For some programs, such as the NHSC LRP, which provides educational loan repayment to health care professionals in the highest areas of need in each state, the score is taken into consideration as part of the eligibility criteria for participation. To obtain a HPSA designation, the area must:

- Be a rational area for the delivery of health care services;
- Have a specific population to professional ratio; and
- Demonstrate that health care professionals in contiguous areas are excessively distant, over-utilized, or inaccessible to the population under consideration.

Table 1

# Federal Programs Using Shortage Designations

Shortage Designation Type	National Health Service Corps (NHSC)	NURSE Corps	Health Center Program	CMS Medicare Incentive Payment	CMS Rural Health Clinic Program	J-1 Visa Waiver Program
Medically Underserved Area			X		X	X
Medically Underserved Population			X			X
State Governor's Certified Shortage Area					X	

## Primary Care

Geographic HPSA	X	X		X	X	X
Population HPSA	X	X			X	X
Facility HPSA	X	X				X

## Dental Health

Geographic HPSA	X					
Population HPSA	X					
Facility HPSA	X					

## Mental Health

Geographic HPSA	X	X		X		X
Population HPSA	X	X				X
Facility HPSA	X	X				X

## Types of HPSA Designations

There are different types of HPSA determinations, the most common being Geographic HPSA and Low-Income Population HPSA, as described below.

### Geographic HPSA

Geographic HPSAs allow health care professionals to participate in the Physician Bonus Program, which pays a 10 percent bonus for outpatient services for Medicare beneficiaries. Primary Care Geographic HPSA designations in Kansas are calculated using the county population and the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) professionals providing direct patient care services in that county. Each professional's direct patient care hours are compiled to calculate the FTE; 40 direct patient care hours per week equals one FTE. The minimum population to professional ratio for a Primary Care Geographic HPSA is 3,500:1.

### Population HPSA

Population HPSAs reflect the health care needs of specific populations to determine if the area qualifies as a Low-Income Population HPSA or Medicaid Eligible Population HPSA. More than 30 percent of the area population must be under 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) to qualify for a Low-Income Population HPSA or Medicaid Eligible Population HPSA.

### Indian Health Facilities, Other Facility HPSA and Auto-Facility HPSA

Other Facility HPSAs and Auto-Facility HPSAs reflect the specific health care needs of a correctional facility, county or state mental hospital, and public or non-profit medical facility. Auto-Facility HPSAs are federally qualified health centers (FQHC), rural health clinics (RHC) and Indian Health Service clinics. HPSA designations and scores for Indian Health Facilities/Native American Tribal Population HPSAs and Auto-Facility HPSA designations are calculated by the Shortage Designation Branch of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

## Ratio of Population-to-Professionals: Which Providers Count?

**Primary Care** Includes Doctors of Medicine (MD) and Doctors of Osteopathy (DO) who provide services in the following specialties:

- Family Practice
- Internal Medicine
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Pediatrics

**Dental Health** Includes:

- Dentists
- Dental Auxiliaries (defined as any non-dentist staff employed by the dentist to assist in the operation of the practice)

**Mental Health** Includes:

- Psychiatrists

The State Office of Primary Care and Rural Health is responsible for the collection of professional FTE information used in the population to professional ratios. The process of surveying the health care professionals is accomplished through a contract with Fort Hays State University. Providers are asked to self-report the average number of hours per week spent providing direct patient care, which is defined as

providing primary health services in an outpatient or ambulatory setting. Direct patient care does not include time spent teaching, conducting research, completing administrative duties, or serving in an advisory or supervisory role. All other data used in HPSA scoring is obtained through U.S. census data and other national sources.

**Table 2**  
**HPSA Scoring Criteria**

Factor Points Awarded	Primary Care			Dental Health			Mental Health
	Max Points Awarded	Multiplier	Total Points Possible	Max Points Awarded	Multiplier	Total Points Possible	Max Points Awarded
Population to professional ratio	5	x2	10	5	x2	10	7
Percent of population below federal poverty level	5	x1	5	5	x2	10	5
Travel time/distance to care	5	x1	5	5	x1	5	5
Infant health index	5	x1	5				
Water fluoridation status				1	x1		
Youth ratio							3
Elderly ratio							3
Substance abuse prevalence							1
Alcohol abuse prevalence							1
Max Score	25			26			25

# Federal Medically Underserved Areas and Medically Underserved Populations

The Medically Underserved Area (MUA) criteria were developed by the federal government to support the federal health maintenance organization (HMO) grant program and targets areas for community health centers (CHC) and rural health clinics (RHC). County or partial county areas are eligible for designation as a MUA. Discrete populations, such as a prison population or Medicaid recipients within a county, are eligible for designation as a Medically Underserved Population (MUP). Areas or populations are scored on the following criteria:

Percentage of population below 100 percent of the FPL

Percentage of population over 65 years old

Infant mortality rate

Ratio of primary care physicians per 1,000 population

## Governor-Designated Medically Underserved Areas

The Governor's designation of MUA is used only for RHC eligibility. If a county's population exceeds 2,695 persons per adjusted count of primary care physicians, or 37.1 physicians per 100,000 population, it is considered an underserved area. Any time a HPSA or state MUA designation is needed for RHC eligibility and a county believes its status has changed, the county may ask the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health to re-evaluate the county MUA designation. When identifying a reasonable minimum number for practice viability in frontier areas, Kansas considers the service area to be underserved if there are fewer than two primary care professionals available.

## Facility and Auto-Facility HPSAs

Federally qualified health centers (FQHC) and rural health clinics (RHCs) are granted an Auto-Facility HPSA designation. A FQHC look-alike (LAL) has been identified by HRSA as meeting the definition of a FQHC but does not receive grant funding. To be certified as a FQHC, an entity must be a HRSA Health Center Program grantee; these include:



Community health centers



Migrant health centers



Health Care for the Homeless health centers



Housing primary care centers



Outpatient health facilities operated by a tribe, tribal organization or an urban Indian organization

A RHC is in a rural area which must have a Primary Care HPSA or MUA and is designed to increase the availability of health care services in rural areas. Participation as an RHC allows Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement for health care services provided by physician assistants and nurse practitioners. Rural health clinic services covered by Medicare and Medicaid are paid on a cost basis, providing an incentive for health clinics that use nurse practitioners and/or physician assistants at least half-time.



## National Shortage Designation Update

In late 2017, all existing geographic and population HPSA designations nationwide were updated at a single point in time. This is known as the first phase of the National Update, part of HRSA's Shortage Designation Modernization Project (SDMP). The SDMP aims to modernize the HPSA designation process by giving greater transparency, accountability, and parity to the process.

The second phase of the project occurred in summer of 2019 and updated all existing Auto-Facility HPSA designations (Auto-HPSAs). Facilities that were eligible for, but did not have, an Auto-HPSA designation had one created for them. In the months leading up to the update, HRSA provided stakeholders with a series of reports previewing their projected Auto-HPSA scores and the data used to generate them.

HRSA proposed a second National Update for fall of 2020, in which all existing geographic and population HPSA designations will be updated once again. The update has been postponed until summer of 2021.

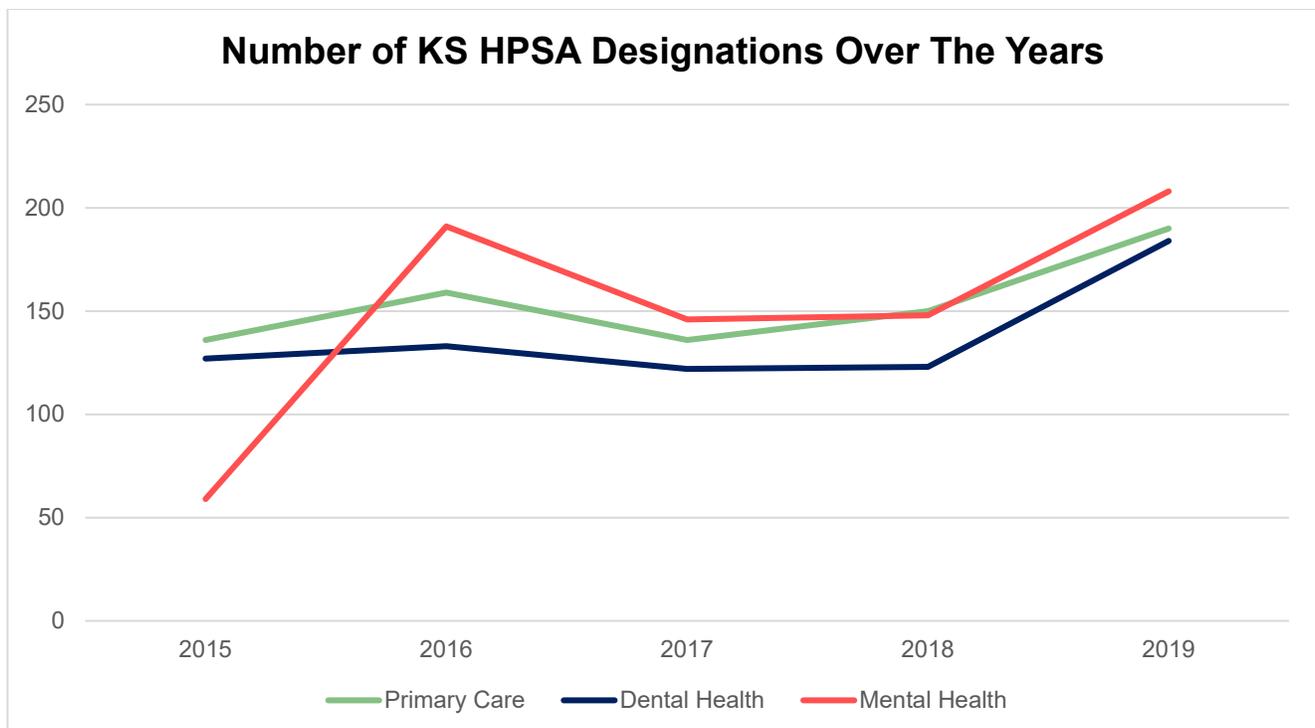


Figure 1

Table 3

# HPSA Designations

## Kansas County-Level Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)

County	Primary Care			Mental Health			Dental Health		
	Last Updated	Type	Score	Last Updated	Type	Score	Last Updated	Type	Score
Allen	8/26/2016	Population	12	12/1/2016	Geographic	18	10/28/2017	Population	9
Anderson	10/28/2017	Population	8	12/1/2016	Geographic	18	10/28/2017	Population	12
Atchison	11/22/2019	Population	9	11/30/2016	Geographic	13	10/28/2017	Population	15
Barber	10/20/2017	Population	15	12/5/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Geographic	11
Barton	10/28/2017	Population	12	12/1/2016	Geographic	16	10/28/2017	Population	15
Bourbon	12/27/2018	Population	13	12/1/2016	Geographic	18	10/28/2017	Population	16
Brown	12/26/2018	Population	9	11/30/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	12
Butler	N/A			11/30/2016	Geographic	7	N/A		
Chase	10/28/2017	Geographic	14	11/30/2016	Geographic	16	10/28/2017	Geographic	10
Chautauqua	4/13/2018	Geographic	14	10/28/2017	Geographic	13	10/28/2017	Population	9
Cherokee	10/28/2017	Population	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	14	10/28/2017	Population	17
Cheyenne	10/28/2017	Population	9	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	15
Clark	4/13/2018	Population	16	12/1/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Geographic	9
Clay	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			2/9/2017	Geographic	11	11/19/2019	Geographic	11
Cloud	10/28/2017	Population	16	2/9/2017	Geographic	11	10/28/2017	Population	15
Coffey	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			11/30/2016	Geographic	16	11/19/2019	Geographic	8
Comanche	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			12/1/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Geographic	8
Cowley	10/2/2019	Population	15	11/28/2016	Geographic	18	10/28/2017	Population	14
Crawford	8/26/2016	Population	13	3/14/2017	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	19
Decatur	10/28/2017	Population	10	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	9
Dickinson	10/28/2017	Population	10	11/30/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	15
Doniphan	10/28/2017	Population	13	11/30/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	10
Douglas	5/3/2017	Population	14	N/A			10/28/2017	Population	14
Edwards	4/13/2018	Population	16	12/1/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	5
Elk	4/13/2018	Population	15	10/28/2017	Geographic	13	10/28/2017	Geographic	13
Ellis	10/28/2017	Population	16	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	N/A		
Ellsworth	10/28/2017	Population	16	11/30/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	9
Finney	10/28/2017	Population	15	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	N/A		

\* = Submitted to HRSA for score update or reinstatement

Data as of: 12/2/2019

## Kansas County-Level Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)

County	Primary Care			Mental Health			Dental Health		
	Last Updated	Type	Score	Last Updated	Type	Score	Last Updated	Type	Score
Ford	10/28/2017	Population	15	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	14
Franklin	10/28/2017	Population	5	N/A			10/28/2017	Population	12
Geary	10/28/2017	Population	13	2/9/2017	Geographic	11	10/28/2017	Population	15
Gove	4/13/2018	Population	13	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	Withdrawn 7/2/2018		
Graham	10/28/2017	Population	8	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	4
Grant	11/19/2019	Population	16	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	12/26/2017	Population	13
Gray	10/28/2017	Geographic	13	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	15
Greeley	7/18/2018	Population	13	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	5
Greenwood	3/20/2017	Population	15	11/30/2016	Geographic	16	10/28/2017	Geographic	12
Hamilton	10/28/2017	Geographic	18	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	Withdrawn 7/2/2018		
Harper	10/28/2017	Population	15	12/5/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	7
Harvey	N/A			3/20/2017	Population	17	N/A		
Haskell	10/28/2017	Geographic	6	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	11
Hodgeman	12/27/2017	Geographic	12	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	5
Jackson	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			11/30/2016	Geographic	15	Withdrawn 7/2/2018		
Jefferson	10/28/2017	Geographic	12	11/30/2016	Geographic	13	10/28/2017	Geographic	13
Jewell	10/28/2017	Geographic	13	2/9/2017	Geographic	11	10/28/2017	Population	5
Johnson	N/A			N/A			N/A		
Kearny	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	7
Kingman	12/27/2017	Population	9	12/5/2016	Geographic	15	12/27/2017	Population	9
Kiowa	12/27/2017	Population	10	12/1/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Geographic	14
Labette	11/15/2018	Population	15	11/30/2016	Geographic	14	10/28/2017	Population	13
Lane	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	5
Leavenworth	N/A			11/30/2016	Geographic	13	N/A		
Lincoln	10/28/2017	Population	14	11/30/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	7
Linn	10/28/2017	Geographic	13	12/1/2016	Geographic	18	12/26/2017	Population	14
Logan	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			8/24/2018	Geographic	17	N/A		
Lyon	2/13/2017	Population	18	11/30/2016	Geographic	16	10/28/2017	Population	19

\* = Submitted to HRSA for score update or reinstatement

Data as of: 12/2/2019

## Kansas County-Level Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)

County	Primary Care			Mental Health			Dental Health		
	Last Updated	Type	Score	Last Updated	Type	Score	Last Updated	Type	Score
Marion	8/31/2018	Geographic	10	3/20/2017	Population	17	10/28/2017	Population	15
Marshall	3/14/2017	Population	14	2/9/2017	Geographic	11	10/28/2017	Population	12
McPherson	N/A			3/20/2017	Population	17	N/A		
Meade	8/13/2018	Population	15	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	7
Miami	N/A			N/A			N/A		
Mitchell	10/28/2017	Population	14	2/9/2017	Geographic	11	10/28/2017	Population	13
Montgomery	7/18/2018	Population	15	10/28/2017	Geographic	13	10/28/2017	Population	17
Morris	N/A			11/30/2016	Geographic	16	12/26/2017	Geographic	12
Morton	10/28/2017	Population	10	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	7
Nemaha	10/28/2017	Population	13	11/30/2016	Geographic	15	N/A		
Neosho	12/10/2018	Geographic	15	12/1/2016	Geographic	18	10/28/2017	Population	17
Ness	4/13/2018	Population	11	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	15
Norton	10/28/2017	Population	14	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	11
Osage	10/28/2017	Geographic	13	11/30/2016	Geographic	16	10/28/2017	Geographic	9
Osborne	10/28/2017	Population	17	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	Withdrawn 7/2/2018		
Ottawa	N/A			11/30/2016	Geographic	15	Withdrawn 7/2/2018		
Pawnee	10/28/2017	Population	13	12/1/2016	Geographic	16	N/A		
Phillips	10/28/2017	Geographic	11	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	N/A		
Pottawatomie	N/A			2/9/2017	Geographic	11	N/A		
Pratt	10/28/2017	Population	9	12/5/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	13
Rawlins	10/28/2017	Population	20	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	Withdrawn 7/2/2018		
Reno	2/2/2017	Population	10	12/5/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	12
Republic	11/15/2018	Population	19	2/9/2017	Geographic	11	11/19/2019	Population	8
Rice	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			12/1/2016	Geographic	16	N/A		
Riley	2/13/2017	Population	13	2/9/2017	Geographic	11	10/28/2017	Population	19
Rooks	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	11
Rush	10/28/2017	Population	9	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	7
Russell	10/24/2016	Population	15	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	15

\* = Submitted to HRSA for score update or reinstatement

Data as of: 12/2/2019

## Kansas County-Level Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)

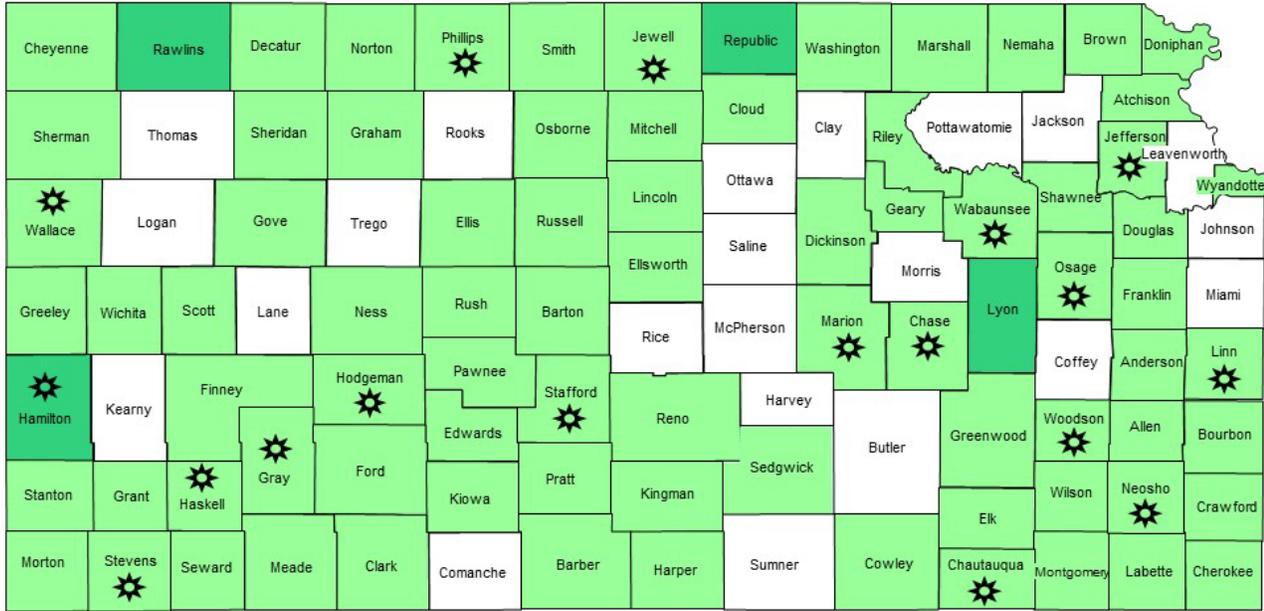
County	Primary Care			Mental Health			Dental Health		
	Last Updated	Type	Score	Last Updated	Type	Score	Last Updated	Type	Score
Saline	N/A			11/30/2016	Geographic	15	10/28/2017	Population	14
Scott	12/1/2016	Population	12	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	N/A		
Sedgwick	12/26/2018	Population	15	3/20/2017	Population	11	N/A		
Seward	2/9/2017	Population	12	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	8
Shawnee	9/7/2018	Population	13	N/A			10/28/2017	Population	17
Sheridan	10/28/2017	Population	7	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	5
Sherman	4/13/2018	Population	16	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	15
Smith	1/30/2019	Population	7	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Population	5
Stafford	10/28/2017	Geographic	11	12/1/2016	Geographic	16	10/28/2017	Geographic	12
Stanton	4/13/2018	Population	11	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	8
Stevens	8/13/2018	Geographic	9	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	12/26/2017	Geographic	12
Sumner	N/A			11/28/2016	Geographic	14	N/A		
Thomas	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			8/24/2018	Geographic	17	Withdrawn 7/2/2018		
Trego	Withdrawn 7/2/2018			8/24/2018	Geographic	17	Withdrawn 7/2/2018		
Wabaunsee	10/28/2017	Geographic	11	11/30/2016	Geographic	16	10/28/2017	Geographic	10
Wallace	7/18/2018	Geographic	11	8/24/2018	Geographic	17	10/28/2017	Geographic	6
Washington	10/28/2017	Population	7	2/9/2017	Geographic	11	10/28/2017	Population	9
Wichita	4/13/2018	Population	13	12/1/2016	Geographic	17	N/A		
Wilson	4/13/2017	Population	14	10/28/2017	Geographic	13	10/28/2017	Population	17
Woodson	10/28/2017	Geographic	6	12/1/2016	Geographic	18	10/28/2017	Population	9
Wyandotte	12/28/2017	Population	15	N/A			10/28/2017	Population	14

\* = Submitted to HRSA for score update or reinstatement

Data as of: 12/2/2019

# HPSA Maps

## Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas Geographic and Low-Income County-Level Designations December 2019



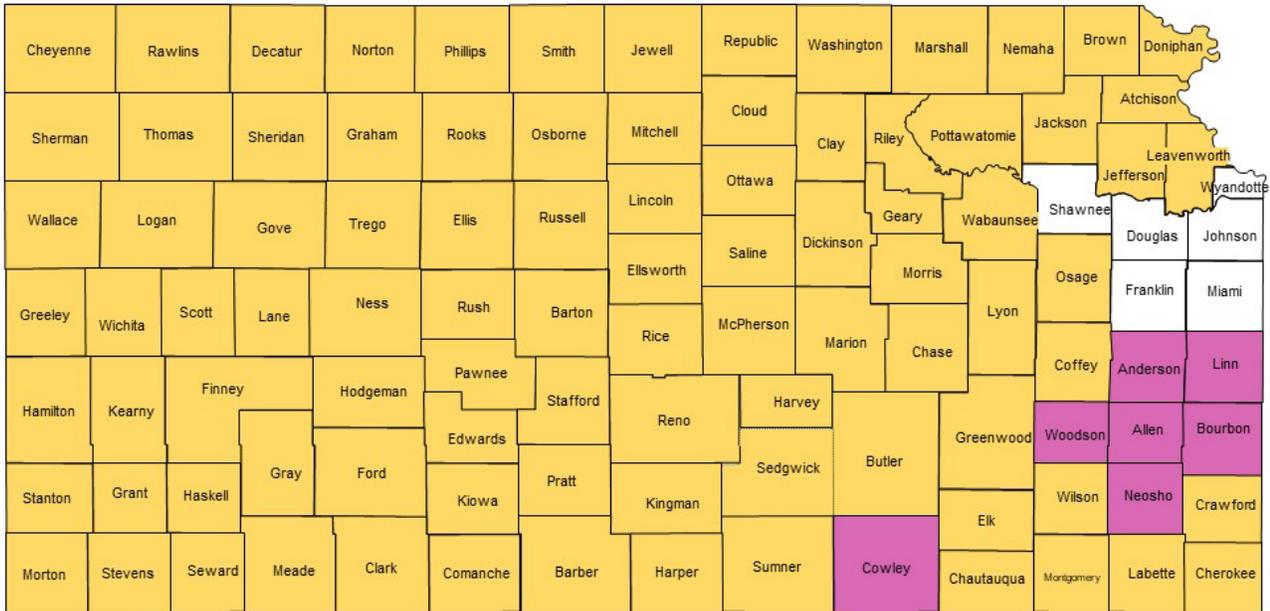
- County-level Primary Care HPSA Score of 18 or higher
- County-level Primary Care HPSA Score of 17 or lower
- Not eligible for County-level Primary Care HPSA score

★ Counties with Geographic Primary Care HPSA Designation

Data Source: Health Resources & Services Administration Data Warehouse, December 2019

Data Note: HPSA scores shown are listed in Data Warehouse as of December 2019. Updates to HPSAs made after this date are not reflected.

## Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas Geographic and Low-Income County-Level Designations December 2019

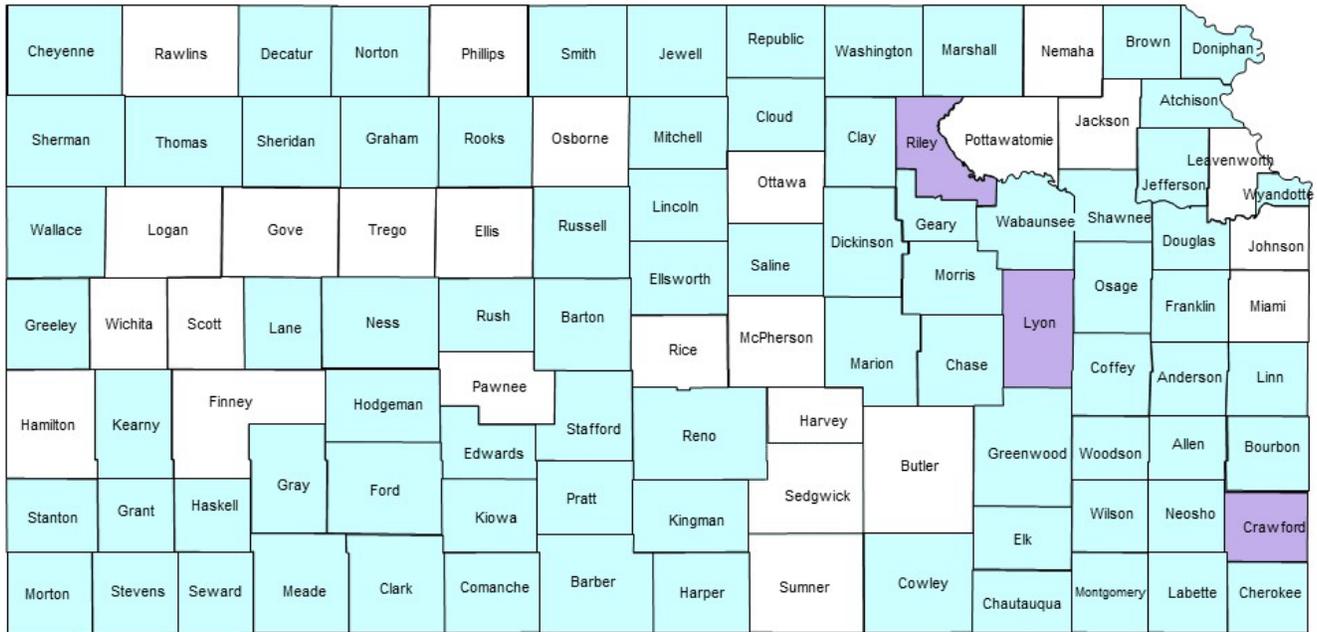


- County-level Mental Health HPSA Score of 18 or higher
- County-level Mental Health HPSA Score of 17 or lower
- Not eligible for County-level Mental Health HPSA score

Data Source: Health Resources & Services Administration Data Warehouse, December 2019

Data Note: HPSA scores shown are listed in Data Warehouse as of December 2019. Updates to HPSAs made after this date are not reflected.

## Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas Geographic and Low-Income County-Level Designations December 2019



- County-level Dental HPSA Score of 18 or higher
- County-level Dental HPSA Score of 17 or lower
- Not eligible for County-level Dental HPSA score

Data Source: Health Resources & Services Administration Data Warehouse, December 2019

Data Note: HPSA scores shown are listed in Data Warehouse as of December 2019. Updates to HPSAs made after this date are not reflected.

# WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION PROGRAMS

## Kansas State Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program

Kansas participates in the State Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program, which assists in the recruitment of physicians to practice in communities that lack adequate access to primary health care. Section 214-(1) of the federal Immigration and Nationality Act [8 USC Section 1184(I)] allows each state to annually recommend up to 30 international medical graduates to be granted a waiver of the J-1 visa two-year home-country residency requirement, in return for practicing medicine full-time for a minimum of three years in a medically underserved area. This allows Kansas to have 90 physicians working in the state to provide care in our underserved areas. Selection of these physicians is competitive and is based on HPSA score, primary care (prioritized) vs. specialty care, rural (prioritized) vs. urban location, percentage of Medicaid and other low-income patients served, need of facility, number of recent waivers approved by the health facility, and number of recent waivers approved for the geographic location.

## National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC), part of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), offers several different options for scholarships and loan repayment. The NHSC Loan Repayment Program (NHSC LRP) aids primary care medical, dental, and mental/behavioral health care professionals. The LRP offers levels of loan repayment awards up to \$50,000 in exchange for a health professional's two-year full-time, or four-year part-time, service commitment in a federally-designated HPSA. In response to the growing opioid problem, the NHSC has added an award of up to \$75,000 for a three-year commitment from substance abuse professionals.

In December 2019, the NHSC had 87 participants at 54 practice sites in Kansas.

## Kansas State Loan Repayment Program Success Stories

The State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) provides loan repayment assistance for qualifying educational loans to health care professionals working in approved practice sites within a HPSA. The SLRP program provides loan repayment assistance to eligible professionals in areas not covered by the NHSC LRP. After the initial two-year SLRP service commitment, continuation contracts may be granted, in one-year increments, for up to three additional years of service. The health care professional must commit to provide direct patient care services at an eligible practice site and must be licensed in Kansas in one of the approved disciplines listed below.

*"The loan repayment program has taken a lot of stress off my life, allowing me to focus better on dentistry."*

**-Kelly Farmer, DDS**

*"The loan repayment program has been a God send for me. I don't think I could have done it by myself. I love what I do and can do that stress free from student loans."*

**-Rosalie Nguyen, RDH**

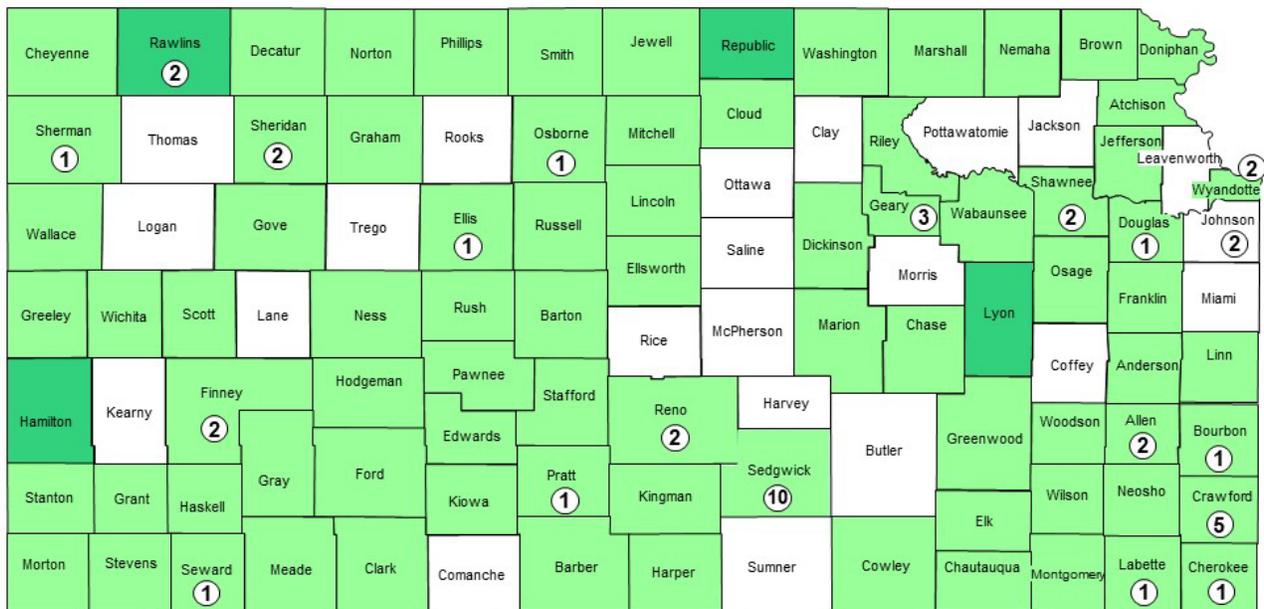
In 2019, the SOPC-RH was able to give 11 new awards, 5 second year awards, and 8 continuation awards.

Table 4

# Eligible NHSC Health Care Professions

Primary Care	Allopathic and Osteopathic Physician (MD/DO) Nurse Practitioner (NP) Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) Physician Assistant (PA)
Dental Health	Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) Doctor of Medicine in Dentistry (DMD) Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH)
Mental Health	Allopathic and Osteopathic Physician Psychiatry (MD/DO) Health Service Psychologist (HSP) Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) Licensed Masters Additional Counselor Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) Psychiatric Nurse Specialist (PNS) Nurse Practitioner – Mental Health (NP) Physician Assistant – Mental Health (PA)

**Geographic Distribution of National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Primary Care Participants**  
December 2019



- County-level Primary Care HPSA Score of 18 or higher
- County-level Primary Care HPSA Score of 17 or lower
- Not eligible for County-level Primary Care HPSA score
- ① Number of NHSC participants as of December 2019

Data Source: Health Resources & Services Administration Data Warehouse, December 2019  
 Data Note: HPSA scores shown are listed in Data Warehouse as of December 2019. Updates to HPSAs made after this date are not reflected.

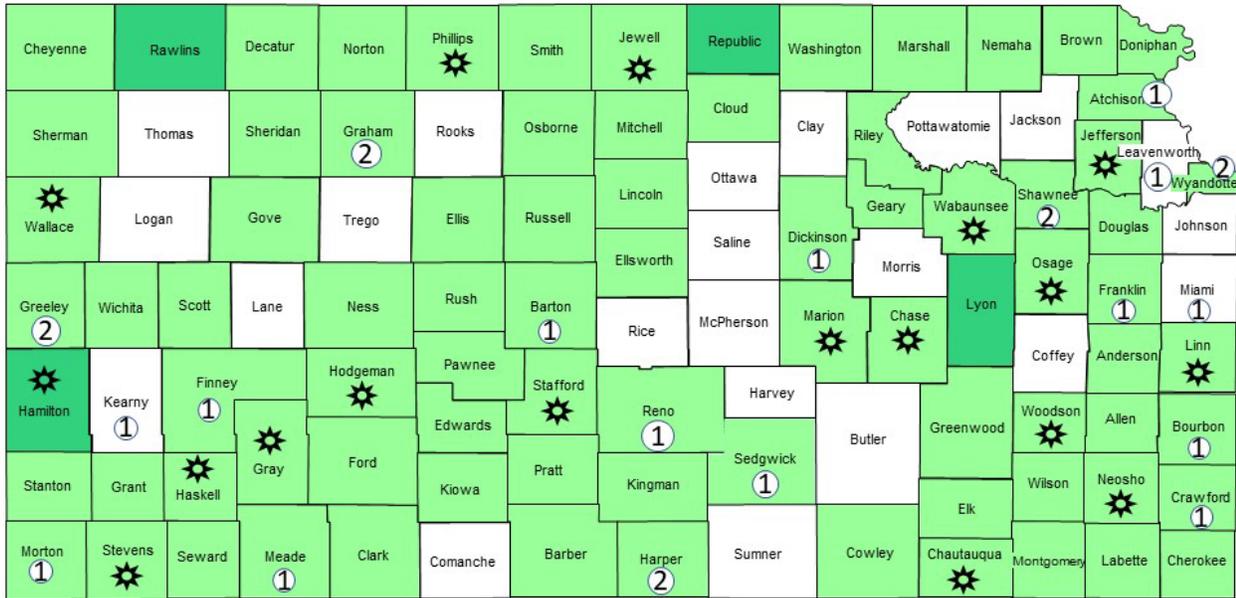


Table 5

## Eligible Health Care Professions and SLRP Award Amounts

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL		DISCIPLINE	INITIAL SERVICE		CONTINUATION		
			YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
MD	Allopathic Medicine	Primary Care/ Mental Health	Up to \$25,000	Up to \$25,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$10,000
DO	Osteopathic Medicine	Primary Care/ Mental Health					
DDS	Dental Surgery	Dental Health					
DMD	Dental Medicine	Dental Health					
APRN/NP	Nurse Practitioner	Primary Care	Up to \$20,000	Up to 20,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
PA	Physician Assistant	Primary Care					
CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife	Primary Care					
RDH	Registered Dental Hygienist	Dental Health					
APRN/NP	Nurse Practitioner - Mental Health	Mental Health					
PA	Physician Assistant - Mental Health	Mental Health					
HSP	Health Service Psychologist	Mental Health					
LCSW	Licensed Clinical Social Worker	Mental Health					
LMAC	Licensed Masters Addiction Counselor	Mental Health					
LMSW	Licensed Master Social Worker	Mental Health					
LPC	Licensed Professional Counselor	Mental Health					
MFT	Marriage and Family Therapist	Mental Health					
PNS	Psychiatric Nurse Specialist	Mental Health					

## Geographic Distribution of SLRP Participants December 2019



County-level Primary Care HPSA Score of 18 or higher  
 County-level Primary Care HPSA Score of 17 or lower  
 Not eligible for County-level Primary Care HPSA score

★ Counties with Geographic Primary Care HPSA Designation

① Number of SLRP Participants per County

Data Source: Health Resources & Services Administration Data Warehouse, December 2019

Data Note: HPSA scores shown are listed in Data Warehouse as of December 2019. Updates to HPSAs made after this date are not reflected.

**Table 6**

## 2019 Physicians per Specialty

Physician Specialty	County
Internal Medicine	Wyandotte
Internal Medicine	Ellis
Cardiology	Ellis
Endocrinologist	Shawnee
Hematology/Oncology	Reno
Infectious Disease	Shawnee
Hematology/Oncology	Shawnee
Gastroenterology	Sedgwick
Internal Medicine Hospitalist	Shawnee
Geriatric Medicine	Wyandotte
Pediatric Cardiology	Sedgwick
General Internist/Hospitalist	Sedgwick
Nephrology	Wyandotte
Hematology	Wyandotte
Neurology	Wyandotte

Physician Specialty	County
Nocturnist	Wyandotte
Pediatric Gastroenterology	Wyandotte
Infectious Disease	Shawnee
Pediatric Hospitalist	Sedgwick
Non-Interventional Cardiology	Sedgwick
Neonatology	Sedgwick
Rheumatology	Douglas
Neonatology	Shawnee
Hospitalist	Johnson
Emergency Pediatric Medicine	Sedgwick
Pediatrics	Sedgwick
Internal Medicine	Sedgwick
Internal Medicine-Hospitalist	Sedgwick
Internal Medicine-Nocturnist	Sedgwick
Internal Medicine	Ford

## Kansas Charitable Health Care Provider Program

The Kansas Charitable Health Care Provider Program (CHCP) allows indigent health care clinics and providers to receive coverage under the Kansas Tort Claims Act for liability purposes. When acting as a charitable health care provider, the charitable health care provider is considered an employee of the state. Any claims against a charitable health care provider arising from provision of gratuitous care to medically indigent individuals will be paid from the Kansas tort claims funds. Claims against charitable health care providers pursuant to the Kansas Tort Claims Act may not be considered by an insurance company in determining the rate charged for professional liability insurance for health care providers or in the determination to cancel any such policy.

Per the Kansas Charitable Health Care Provider Statute 75-6101, the CHCP does not serve as or replace malpractice insurance. Participants in the CHCP with specific questions about their professional liability should contact their attorney.

In 2016, the Kansas Legislature allowed one hour of continuing education credit for every two hours of gratuitous service, for a maximum of 20 continuation education credits per licensure period.

There were 84 active charitable health care clinics in 2019, with 2,550 active charitable health care providers working or volunteering full- or part-time at the clinics. An additional 159 independent health care providers, making a total of 2,709 total health care providers.

**Table 7**

### **Eligible Charitable Health Care Professions, Listed by Licensing Board**

#### **HEALING ARTS**

Medical Doctor  
Osteopathic Doctor  
Podiatric Doctor  
Naturopathic Doctor  
Chiropractic Doctor  
Physician Assistant  
Physical Therapist & Assistant  
Occupational Therapist & Assistant  
Respiratory Therapist  
Athletic Trainer  
Radiologic Technologist

#### **DENTAL**

Dentist, General & Medical  
Dental Hygienist

#### **NURSING**

Advanced Practical Registered Nurse (APRN)  
Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)  
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)

#### **OPTOMETRY**

Optometrist

#### **PHARMACY**

Pharmacist

#### **BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**

Psychologist  
Masters Level Psychologist  
Licensed Clinical Psychotherapist  
Licensed Associate Social Worker  
Licensed Master Social Worker  
Licensed Baccalaureate Social Worker  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor  
Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist  
Professional Counselor  
Marriage and Family Therapist

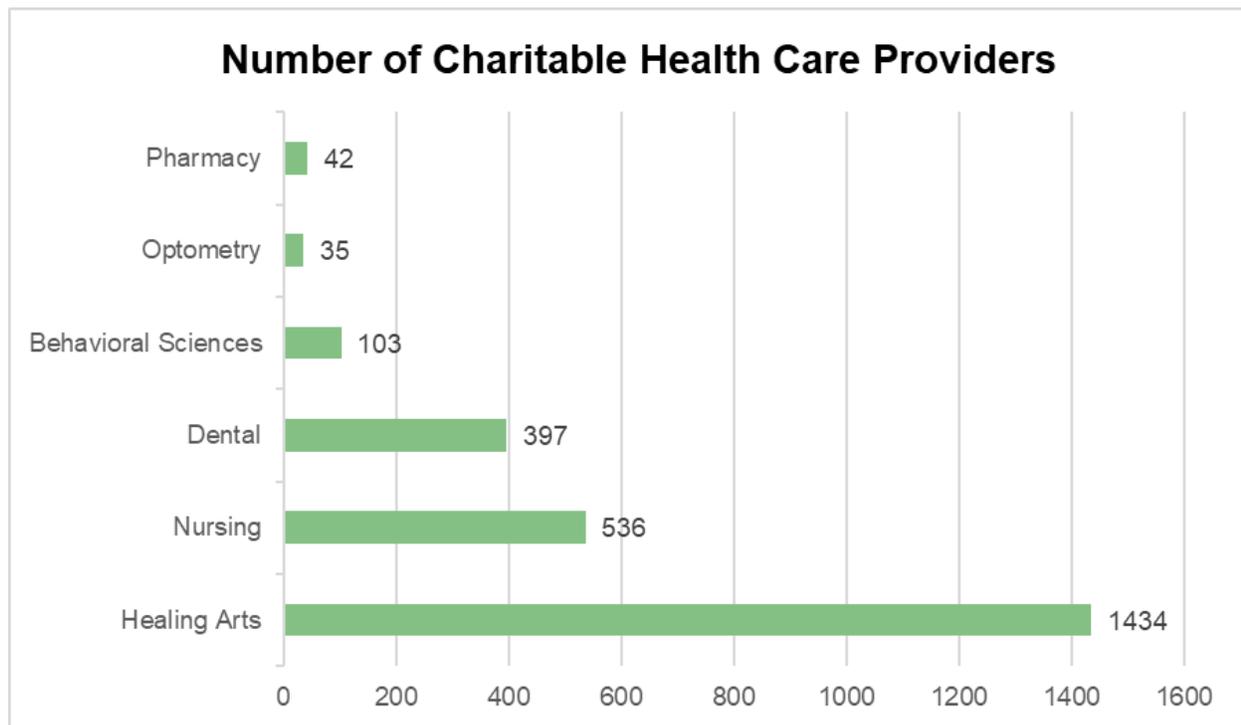


Figure 2

## Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center

The Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center (KRRC) assists Kansas rural communities in recruitment and training of physicians and other health care professionals. The KRRC works with hospitals, private physician practices, community health centers and other organizations that are recruiting physicians, nurses, physician assistants or other health care professionals. The KRRC also provides a health care career service for physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners and other allied health professionals. Since 2014, The KRRC has made 281 placements throughout Kansas. These include:

- 181 Physicians and Dentists
- 62 Advanced-Practice providers, and
- 38 Nurses and other allied and behavioral health care providers.

The majority of these placements were in rural and frontier areas.

Funding for the KRRC comes in part from the KDHE Bureau of Community Health Systems through the State Office of Primary Care and State Office of Rural Health grants.

### Program Contact Information

For more information about the National Health Service Corps programs and the state programs, visit the websites below:

- **National Health Service Corps:**  
<https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/>
- **Kansas Office of Primary Care and Rural Health:**  
<http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/rural.html>
- **Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center:**  
<http://www.kumc.edu/community-engagement/rural-health/kansas-recruitment-and-retention-center.html>



Appendix A

# County Population Density

The population density for each county is determined by the number of individuals per square mile in the county.

Urban	Semi- Urban	Densely-Settled Rural	Rural		Frontier	
150 or more persons per square mile (6 counties)	40 to 149.9 persons per square mile (10 counties)	20 to 39.9 persons per square mile (19 counties)	6 to 19.9 persons per square mile (34 counties)		less than 6 persons per square mile (36 counties)	
Douglas	Butler	Allen	Anderson	Nemaha	Barton	Lane
Johnson	Crawford	Atchison	Brown	Norton	Chase	Lincoln
Leavenworth	Franklin	Barber	Clay	Ottawa	Chautauqua	Logan
Shawnee	Geary	Bourbon	Cloud	Pawnee	Cheyenne	Meade
Sedgwick	Harvey	Cherokee	Coffey	Phillips	Clark	Morton
Wyandotte	Miami	Cowley	Doniphan	Pratt	Comanche	Ness
	Montgomery	Dickinson	Ellsworth	Republic	Decatur	Osborne
	Reno	Ellis	Grant	Rice	Edwards	Rawlins
	Riley	Finney	Gray	Russell	Elk	Rooks
	Saline	Ford	Harper	Scott	Gove	Rush
		Jackson	Haskell	Stevens	Graham	Sheridan
		Jefferson	Kingman	Sumner	Greeley	Sherman
		Labette	Linn	Thomas	Greenwood	Smith
		Lyon	Marion	Wabaunsee	Hamilton	Stafford
		McPherson	Marshall	Washington	Hodgeman	Stanton
		Neosho	Mitchell	Wilson	Jewell	Trego
		Osage	Morris	Woodson	Kearny	Wallace
		Pottawatomie			Kiowa	Wichita
		Seward				



**For more information about this report:**

Bureau of Community Health Systems  
Community Health Access  
Office of Primary Care and Rural Health  
Curtis State Office Building  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340

Phone: 785-296-1200  
FAX: 785-559-4247  
Email: [kdhe.primarycare@ks.gov](mailto:kdhe.primarycare@ks.gov)  
Web: [www.kdheks.gov/bchs](http://www.kdheks.gov/bchs)

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