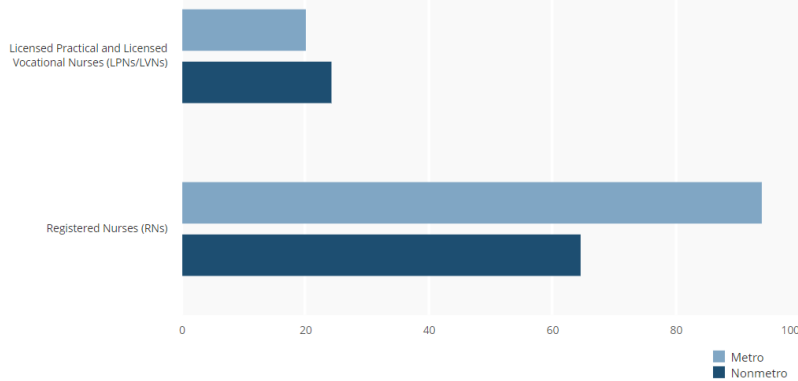


## Rural Areas Have Fewer Health Care Workers

Nurses per 10,000 for urban and rural counties, 2020

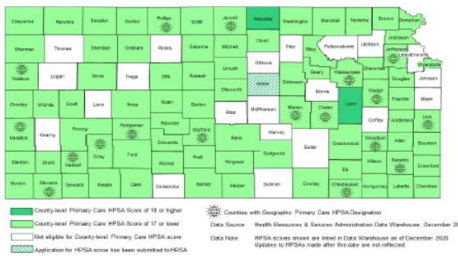


Source: BLS Occupational Employment Statistics, 2020

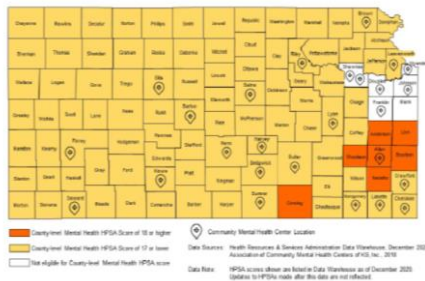


## Kansas Healthcare Workforce Shortages

Primary Care Shortages, 2020



Mental Health Shortages, 2020



Source: KDHE Health Professional Underserved Areas Report



## Why do we have a shortage?

- COVID-19 burnout/exhaustion
- Baby Boomers are retiring
- Desire for flexible work schedules
- New options like remote work/digital opportunities
- Salary and benefit limitations
- Education opportunities limited
- Rural patients need more services
- Rural practice characteristics
- Rural communities lack spouse opportunities
- Rural communities lack child care



## Health Care Workers are Leaving

3 in 10 health-care workers say they have considered no longer working in health care

Washington Post/Kaiser Family Foundation 2021

32% of nurses surveyed in November 2021 said they intended to leave their current position in the next year.

McKinsey & Company 2022

More than half of nurses surveyed under the age of 40 are less committed to the profession than 1 year ago.

Trusted Health 2021



## Impacts on the Delivery of Care

In January and February 2022 **over 50%** of Kansas hospitals report limiting services due to staffing shortages.

Limited services include ....

- Elective surgeries cancelled
- Surgeries requiring overnight stay cancelled
- Limited number of swing beds available
- Increased nurse/patient ratio
- Transfer issues – delays and lack of beds

Source: Kansas Hospital Association



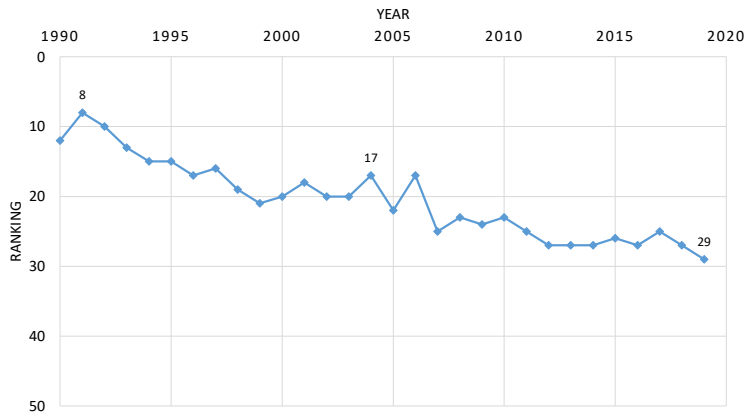
## Public Health Funding

- Kansas ranked #39 in public health spending
- The top state spends 5x more than Kansas
- Kansas spends \$87 per person while the top state spends \$449



# The Result:

## OVERALL KANSAS HEALTH RANKINGS



Source: America's Health Rankings



# Recent Health Rankings

	2020	2021
Social/Economic	21	24
Physical Environment	35	39
Clinical Care	28	31
Behaviors	26	31
Health Outcomes	26	33

Source: America's Health Rankings



Of all the states in the US, over the past 30 years, **Kansas has seen the greatest decline** in its health rankings.

(America's Health Rankings, December 6, 2019)



## COVID-19 Has Increased Challenges

- Rural Americans are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19
- Health disparities are exacerbated during a pandemic
- Outdated facilities and support services makes response harder
- Workforce supply can't meet demand for care
- Public health departments have limited resources
- Transferring patients to higher levels of care has been challenging

