

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Building a Culture of Health, County by County

A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program

2019

Thomas County

THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS | Pop. 7,788

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Kansas 2019
Number of Counties Ranked	101	101	102	103	102	102
Health Outcomes - Rank	6	2	6	14	7	n/a
Length of life - Rank	1	4	5	21	8	n/a
Premature death (years of potential life lost, per 100,000)	4203	4774	5285	6502	5891	6944
Quality of life - Rank	50	9	18	19	15	n/a
% Reporting poor or fair health, adults* ²⁰¹⁶	16	11	12	12	12	15
Avg # poor physical health days, adults* ²⁰¹⁶	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.1
Avg # poor mental health days, adults* ²⁰¹⁶	2.5	2.7	3	3.1	3.1	3.3
% Low birthweight, <2,500 grams	6.6	6.6	6.9	7.1	6.8	7.1
Health Factors - Rank	13	25	14	11	26	n/a
Health Behaviors - Rank	13	50	40	35	34	n/a
% Adult smokers* ²⁰¹⁶	15	16	15	15	15	17
% Obese adults age 20 and older	31	32	35	34	35	33
Food environment index, 0 (worst) to 10 (best)	6.9	6.7	6.9	7.6	7.7	6.9
% Physically inactive adults age 20 and older	25	26	24	28	30	24
% Access to exercise opportunities	75	65	65	79	79	80
% Excessive drinking, adults* ²⁰¹⁶		18	17	18	18	17
% Driving deaths with alcohol-involvement	25	27	27	17	17	24
Sexually transmitted infection rate, per 100,000	227	403	315	292	240	418
Teen birth rate, per 1,000 females age 15-19	30	29	30	26	26	28
Clinical Care - Rank	43	37	36	45	57	n/a
% Uninsured, population under age 65	13	13	11	9	9	10
Primary care physicians rate, per 100,000	63	63	51	51	76	76
Dentists rate, per 100,000	50	51	51	63	51	57
Mental health providers rate, per 100,000	176	177	152	127	128	188
Preventable hospital stays rate, per 1,000 [§]	84	82	67	80		
Preventable hospital stays rate, per 100,000 ^{§#}					5950	4078
% Diabetes monitoring, adults age 65-75 [§]	88	87	88	88		
% Mammography screening, females age 67-69 [§]	48	53	57	57		
% Mammography screening, females age 65-74 ^{§#}					41	43
% Flu vaccinations [§]					26	44
Social & Economic Factors - Rank	16	9	6	5	15	n/a
% High school graduation	93	94	90	90	86	87
% Adults age 25-44 with some college	74	80	77	80	77	70
% Population age 16 and older unemployed	3.6	2.9	2.7	2.9	2.6	3.6
% Children in poverty	13	13	12	11	12	15
Income inequality ratio, 80th percentile to 20th	6.1	4.9	4.8	5	4.6	4.3
% Children in single-parent households	23	23	22	18	19	29
Membership associations rate, per 10,000	30.2	26.4	27.9	27.8	27.9	13.7
Violent crime rate, per 100,000	260	260	305	305	234	365
Injury death rate, per 100,000	84	89	66	63	81	73
Physical Environment - Rank	41	91	29	37	39	n/a
Avg daily density of fine particulate matter	13.1	13.1	7.2	7.2	6.6	8.1
% Exposed to unsafe drinking water	5					
Drinking water violations? yes/no		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
% Households with severe housing problems	8	11	9	7	11	13
% Driving alone to work	76	79	80	82	79	82
% Long commute - driving alone	8	7	7	11	10	20

Empty cells: Shaded = Item was not used to calculate rankings that year; White = Data unavailable. NR: Health outcomes (e.g., length of life) or health factors (e.g., health behaviors) were not ranked that year. n/a: State is not ranked against counties.

*2016 represents substantial changes in data sources or calculation of the measure that would affect comparisons with measure data in 2015.

represents substantial changes in data sources or calculation of the measure that would affect comparisons with similar measures in prior years.

§ represents measures derived among Medicare enrollees.

Please refer to the [County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#) to find out more about the indicator changes.

This document was prepared by the staff at the Kansas Health Institute. If you would like more information about County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, please contact Charles Hunt at (785) 233-5443 or email at chunt@khi.org.



Informing Policy. Improving Health.

The annual *County Health Rankings* provide a snapshot of the health of Kansas counties. The *Rankings* are made up of two summary scores: **Health Factors** (which measure issues that can shape the health outcomes) and **Health Outcomes** (which measure length and quality of life). The following tables illustrate the “drivers,” or measures with the greatest impact on ranking position, for this county.

What do these drivers mean?

The drivers indicate the measures with the greatest impact on the ranking position. Drivers labeled with a green plus sign are measures on which the county performed particularly well. Drivers labeled with a red minus sign indicate priority areas which, if improved, could have the greatest impact on improving the rankings of the county.

Health Factors: Drivers with greatest impact on ranking, Thomas County, KS – 2019

	Measure	Description	Factor Category	County Value	State Value	Impact on Rankings
1	Unemployment	% of population age 16 and older unemployed but seeking work	Social and Economic Environment	2.6%	3.6%	+
2	Children in poverty	% of children under age 18 in poverty	Social and Economic Environment	12%	15%	+
3	Adult smoking	% of adults who are current smokers	Health Behaviors	15%	17%	+
4	Some college	% of adults age 25-44 with some post-secondary education	Social and Economic Environment	77%	70%	+
5	Excessive drinking	% of adults reporting binge or heavy drinking	Health Behaviors	18%	17%	-

Health Outcomes: Drivers with greatest impact on ranking, Thomas County, KS – 2019

	Measure	Description	Outcome Category	County Value	State Value	Impact on Rankings
1	Premature death	Years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population	Length of Life	5891	6944	+
2	Poor physical health days	Average # of physically unhealthy days reported in past 30 days for adults	Quality of Life	2.9	3.1	+
3	Poor or fair health	% of adults reporting fair or poor health	Quality of Life	12%	15%	+
4	Poor mental health days	Average # of mentally unhealthy days reported in past 30 days for adults	Quality of Life	3.1	3.3	+
5	Low birthweight	% of live births with low birthweight (< 2,500 grams)	Quality of Life	6.8%	7.1%	-

NR: Measure (e.g., premature death) could not be reported for this county.

+ Green Plus: Measure with a positive impact on a county’s ranking position.

- Red Minus: Measure with a negative impact on a county’s ranking position.

Technical Note: The state values are only provided as a point of reference. They have not been used in the determination of county rankings or top drivers for health outcomes and health factors. For more information on the calculation of score and rankings, please visit: <http://bit.ly/CHRzscores>.