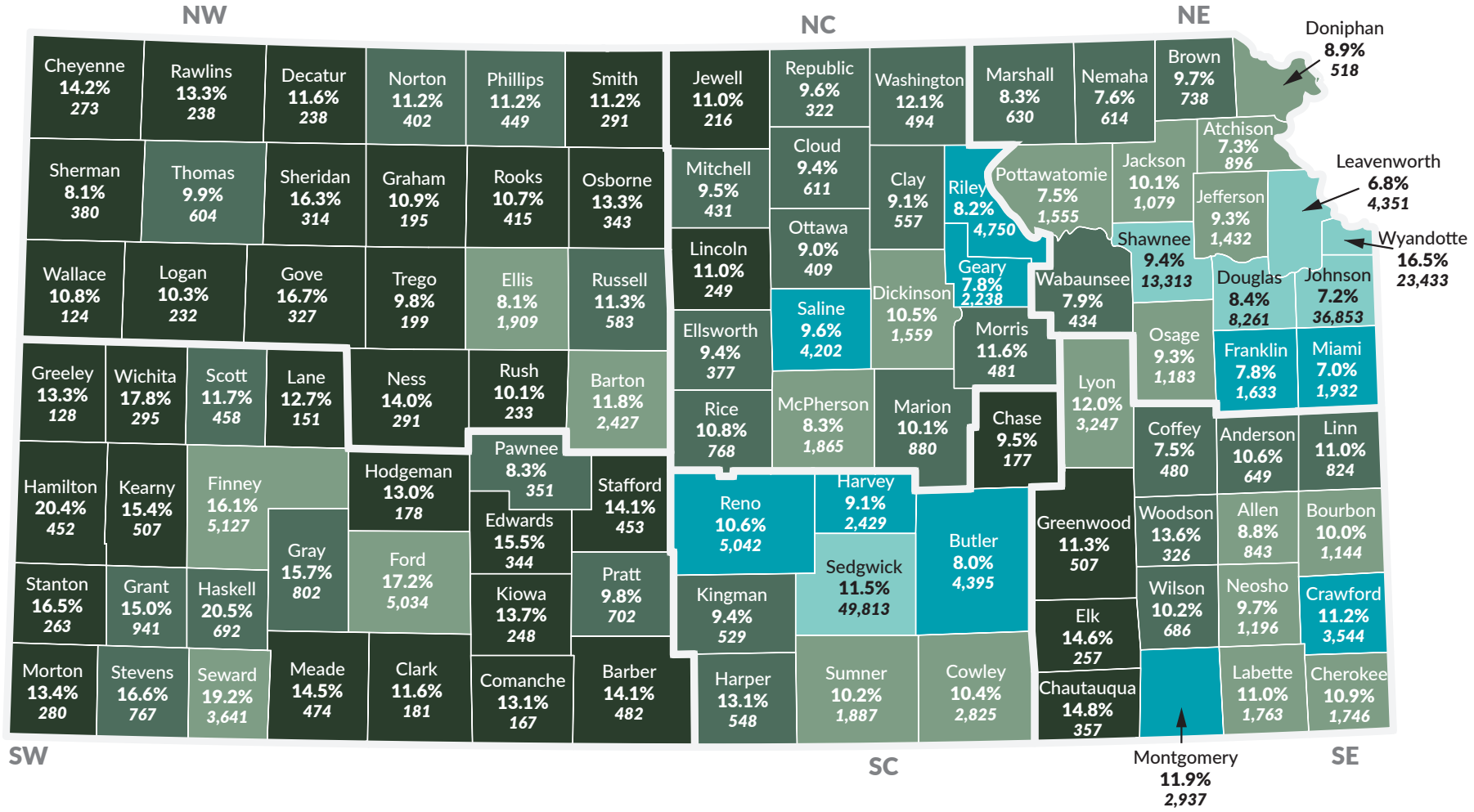
UNINSURED RATES HIGHER IN RURAL KANSAS COUNTIES

Figure 1. **Kansans Age 0-64: Uninsured Rate by County Peer Group, 2018**



County Peer Group	Frontier	Rural	Densely-Settled Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban
Uninsured Rate	12.9%	10.6%	11.4%	9.1%	9.8%
Number Uninsured	10,459	18,539	42,876	33,102	136,024

ALL RURAL

- **Frontier Counties:** <6.0 persons per square mile
- **Rural Counties:** 6.0-19.9 persons per square mile
- **Densely Settled Rural Counties:** 20.0-39.9 persons per square mile

ALL URBAN

- **Semi-Urban Counties:** 40.0-149.9 persons per square mile
- **Urban Counties:** 150.0 or more persons per square mile

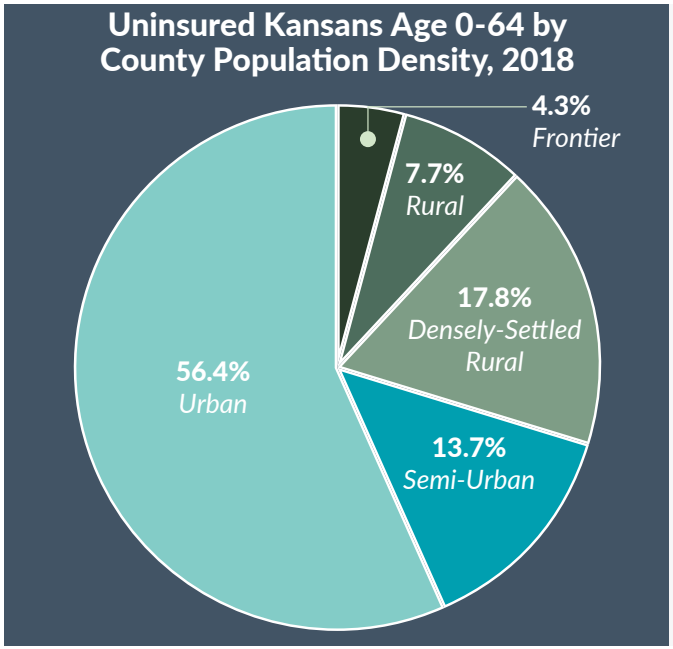
Kansas
10.1%
241,000

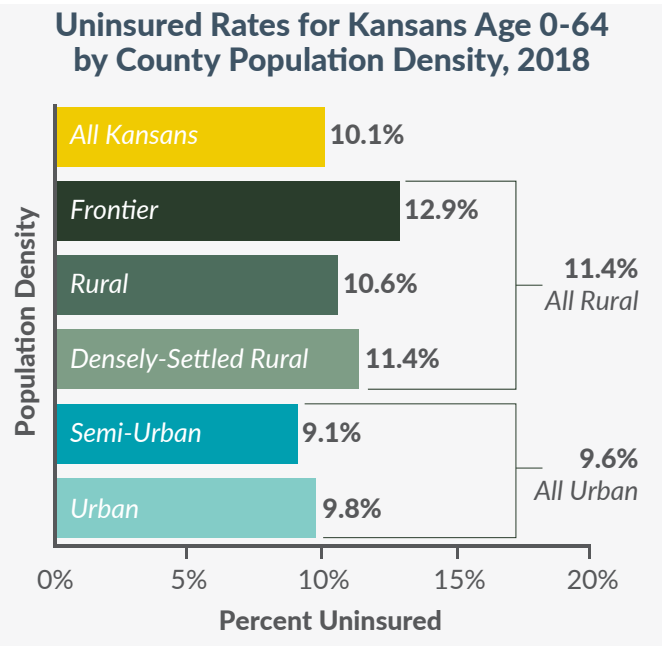
County
Percent Uninsured
Number Uninsured

Uninsured Rates Higher in Rural Kansas Counties

This fact sheet is one of a series examining health insurance coverage among Kansas counties using the most recent county-level health insurance estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Additional analyses of health insurance coverage for adults and kids are available on KHI's website, https://bit.ly/3mgRc8q.

In 2018, the uninsured rate among Kansas children and adults age 0-64 was 10.1 percent (241,000 uninsured). Many less-densely populated counties, with 39.9 persons per square mile or fewer, had higher uninsured rates. Some of the highest uninsured rates are in Frontier counties, those with less than 6.0 persons per square mile.





Note: Uninsured Kansans age 0-64 (not in institutions) = 241,000. The uninsured rate for adults age 0-64 was calculated by taking the number of uninsured adults age 0-64 and dividing by the total number of adults age 0-64. Peer Groups are designated using the Kansas Department of Health and Environment County Peer-Groups by population density. County-level data in Excel format are available at bit.ly/SAHIE2020.
Source: KHI analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2018 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates.

KEY POINTS

- ✓ A majority of uninsured Kansans lived in Urban counties (56.4 percent); however, Densely-Settled Rural counties, Rural counties and Frontier counties on average had higher uninsured rates.
- ✓ Frontier counties had the highest uninsured rate for Kansans age 0-64 (12.9 percent), while the lowest rate was in Semi-Urban counties (9.1 percent).

About the Data

The Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) from the U.S. Census Bureau is the only data source for single-year, county-specific estimates of health insurance coverage (http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sahie/about.html). The SAHIE program was created to develop model-based estimates of health insurance coverage for counties and states. SAHIE estimates for health insurance coverage at the state level could differ slightly from those derived from other data sources because of differences in methodology. SAHIE uses information from the American Community Survey (ACS), demographic population estimates, aggregated federal tax returns, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), County Business Patterns, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

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ABOUT THE FACT SHEET

This fact sheet is based on work done by Phillip Steiner, M.A., and Wen-Chieh Lin, Ph.D. It is available online at khi.org/policy/article/20-39.

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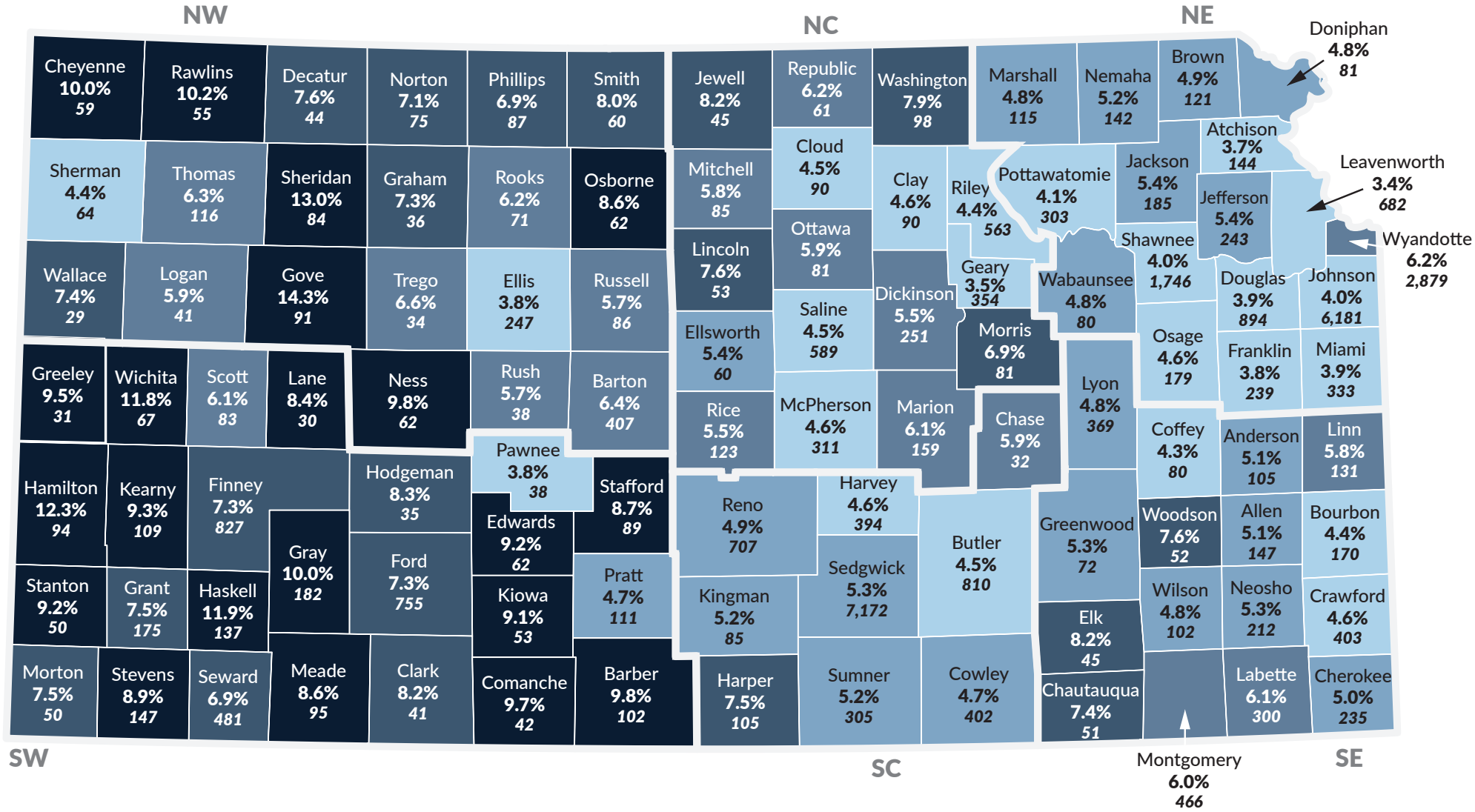
UNINSURED RATES FOR CHILDREN VARY NEARLY FIVE-FOLD ACROSS COUNTIES

Figure 1. **Kansas Children Age 0-18: Uninsured Rate and Number by County and by Region, 2018**



County
Percent Uninsured
Number Uninsured

3.4%-4.6% 4.7%-5.4% 5.5%-6.6% 6.7%-8.3% 8.4%-14.3%

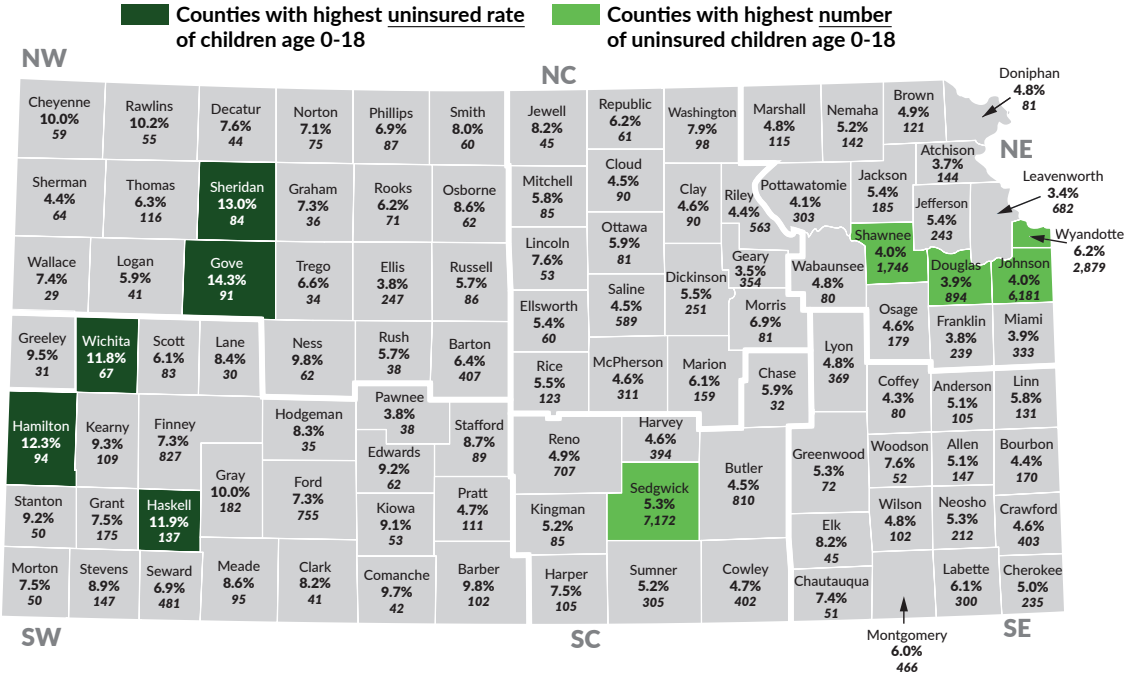
KDHE Region	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Kansas
Uninsured Rate	4.8%	4.3%	6.4%	5.2%	5.2%	7.7%	5.0%
Number Uninsured	3,094	14,547	1,848	10,012	2,940	3,886	36,327

Uninsured Rates for Children Vary Nearly Five-Fold Across Counties

This fact sheet is one of a series examining health insurance coverage among Kansas counties using the most recent county-level health insurance estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Additional analyses of health insurance coverage for adults and kids are available on KHI's website, https://bit.ly/3mgRc8q.

In 2018, the uninsured rate among Kansas children was 5.0 percent (36,327 uninsured children).

However, as in prior years, health insurance coverage varied widely among Kansas counties, with the counties that had the highest rates of uninsured children tending to be in Western Kansas.



KEY POINTS

- ✓ All but four of the 46 counties in Western Kansas had an uninsured rate among children age 0-18 that was higher than the statewide rate (5.0 percent) in 2018.
- ✓ The 21 counties with the highest uninsured rates (8.4 to 14.3 percent) among children were all located in the Western half of the state.
- ✓ There was a nearly five-fold difference between the county with the highest and lowest uninsured rate among children in 2018: 14.3 percent in Gove County (Northwest Kansas) and 3.4 percent in Leavenworth County (Northeast Kansas).
- ✓ The five most populous counties — Douglas, Johnson, Sedgwick, Shawnee and Wyandotte — accounted for more than half (52.0 percent, or 18,872) of uninsured children in 2018.

Note: Uninsured Kansas children age 0-18 (not in institutions) = 36,327. The uninsured rate for children age 0-18 was calculated by taking the number of uninsured children age 0-18 and dividing by the total number of children age 0-18. Regions are designated using the Kansas Department of Health and Environment District Office Boundaries map. County-level data in Excel format are available at bit.ly/SAHIE2020.

Source: KHI analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2018 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates.

About the Data

The Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) from the U.S. Census Bureau is the only data source for single-year, county-specific estimates of health insurance coverage (http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sahie/about.html). The SAHIE program was created to develop model-based estimates of health insurance coverage for counties and states. SAHIE estimates for health insurance coverage at the state level could differ slightly from those derived from other data sources because of differences in methodology. SAHIE uses information from the American Community Survey (ACS), demographic population estimates, aggregated federal tax returns, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), County Business Patterns, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

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ABOUT THE FACT SHEET

This fact sheet is based on work done by Phillip Steiner, M.A., and Wen-Chieh Lin, Ph.D. It is available online at khi.org/policy/article/20-40.

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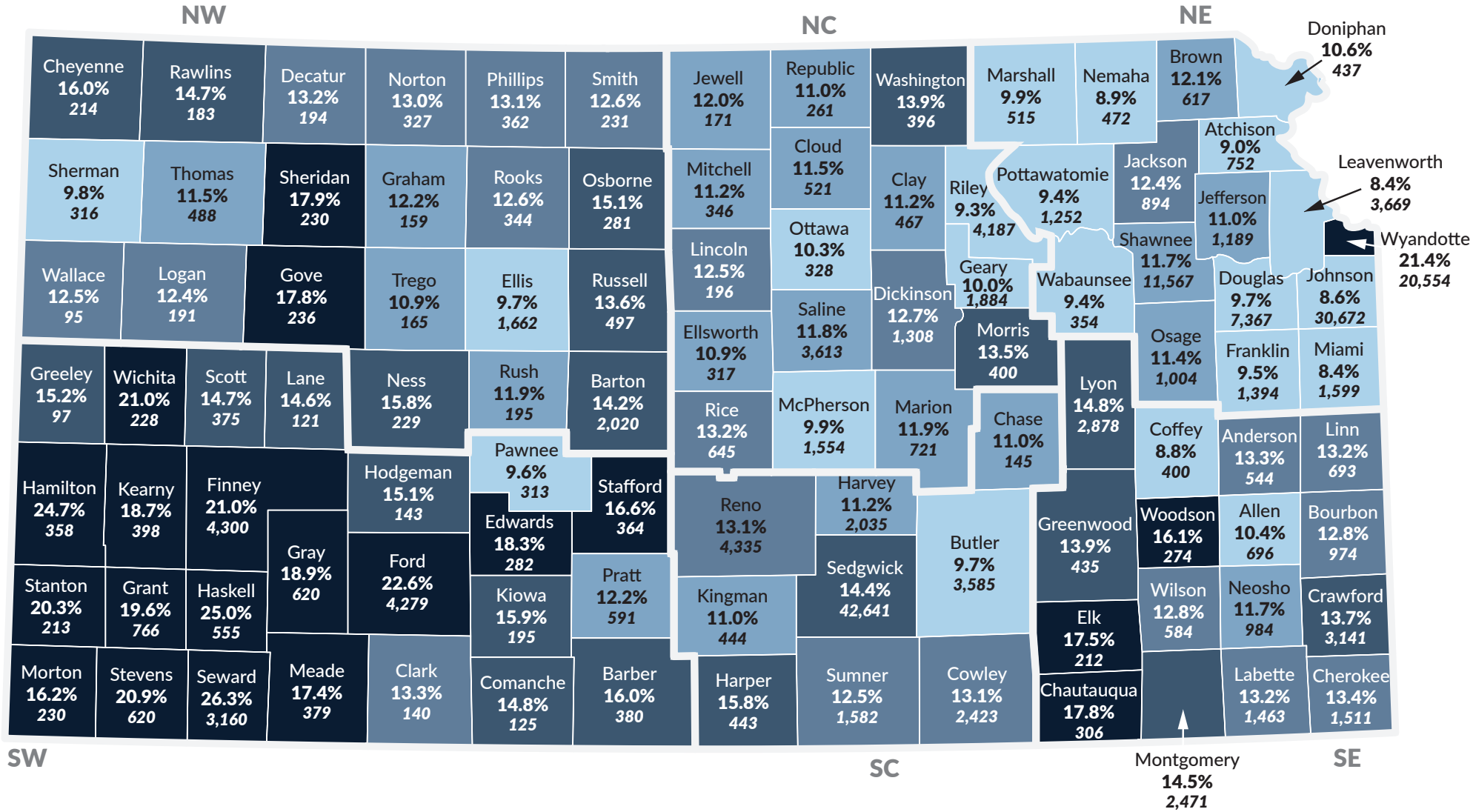
UNINSURED RATE FOR ADULTS HIGHER IN SOUTHWEST REGION

Figure 1. **Kansas Adults Age 19-64: Uninsured Rate and Number by County and by Region, 2018**



County
Percent Uninsured
Number Uninsured

8.4%-10.6% | 10.7%-12.2% | 12.3%-13.4% | 13.5%-16.0% | 16.1%-26.3%

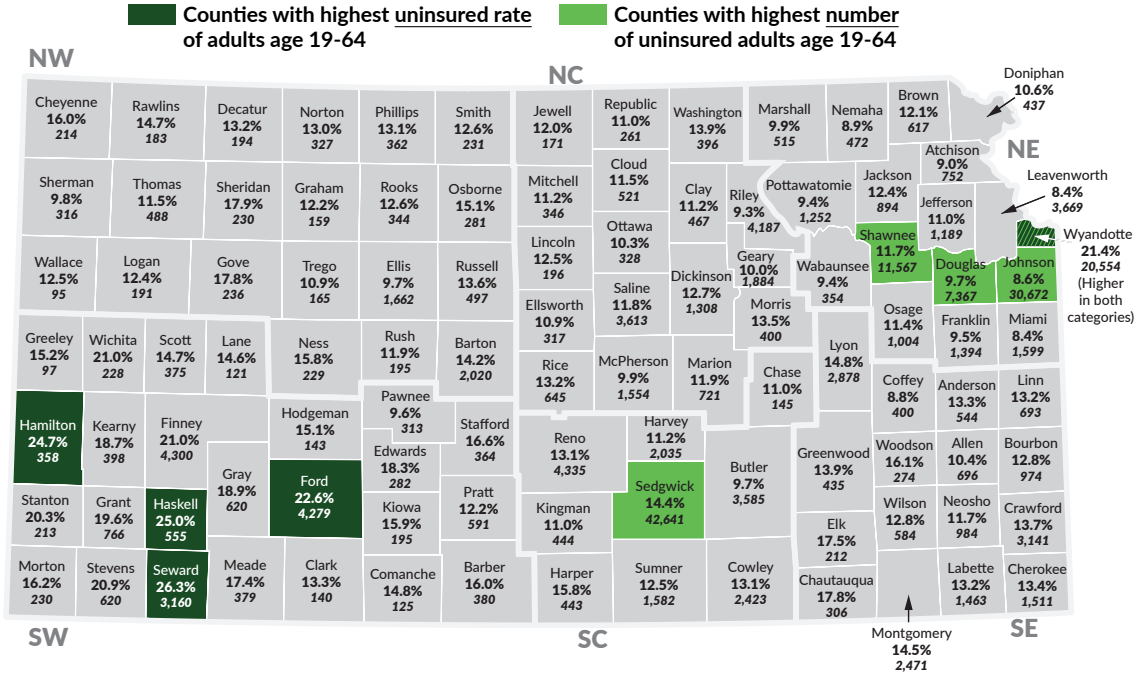
KDHE Region	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Kansas
Uninsured Rate	10.8%	10.9%	12.5%	13.6%	13.5%	20.2%	12.4%
Number Uninsured	17,315	84,308	8,619	57,633	17,566	19,232	204,673

Uninsured Rate for Adults Higher in Southwest Region

This fact sheet is one of a series examining health insurance coverage among Kansas counties using the most recent county-level health insurance estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Additional analyses of health insurance coverage for adults and kids are available on KHI's website, https://bit.ly/3mgRc8q.

In 2018, the uninsured rate among Kansas adults age 19-64 was 12.4 percent (204,673 uninsured adults).

However, as in prior years, health insurance coverage varied widely among Kansas counties, with the highest uninsured rates for adults in counties in Southwest Kansas.



KEY POINTS

- ✓ As in prior years, in 2018 the counties with the highest uninsured rates for adults age 19-64 tended to be in Southwest Kansas.
- ✓ There was more than a three-fold difference between the Kansas county with the highest and lowest uninsured rate among nonelderly adults in 2018: 26.3 percent in Seward County (Southwest Kansas) and 8.4 percent in Leavenworth County (Northeast Kansas).
- ✓ More than half (55.1 percent) of uninsured adults lived in the five most populous counties: Douglas, Johnson, Sedgwick, Shawnee and Wyandotte.
- ✓ The uninsured rate for Wyandotte County for nonelderly adults was 2.5 times higher than its neighboring Johnson and Leavenworth counties (21.4 percent, 8.6 percent and 8.4 percent, respectively).

Note: Uninsured Kansas adults age 19-64 (not in institutions) = 204,673. The uninsured rate for adults age 19-64 was calculated by taking the number of uninsured adults age 19-64 and dividing by the total number of adults age 19-64. Regions are designated using the Kansas Department of Health and Environment District Office Boundaries map. County-level data in Excel format are available at bit.ly/SAHIE2020.

Source: KHI analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2018 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates.

About the Data

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ABOUT THE FACT SHEET

This fact sheet is based on work done by Phillip Steiner, M.A., and Wen-Chieh Lin, Ph.D. It is available online at khi.org/policy/article/20-41.

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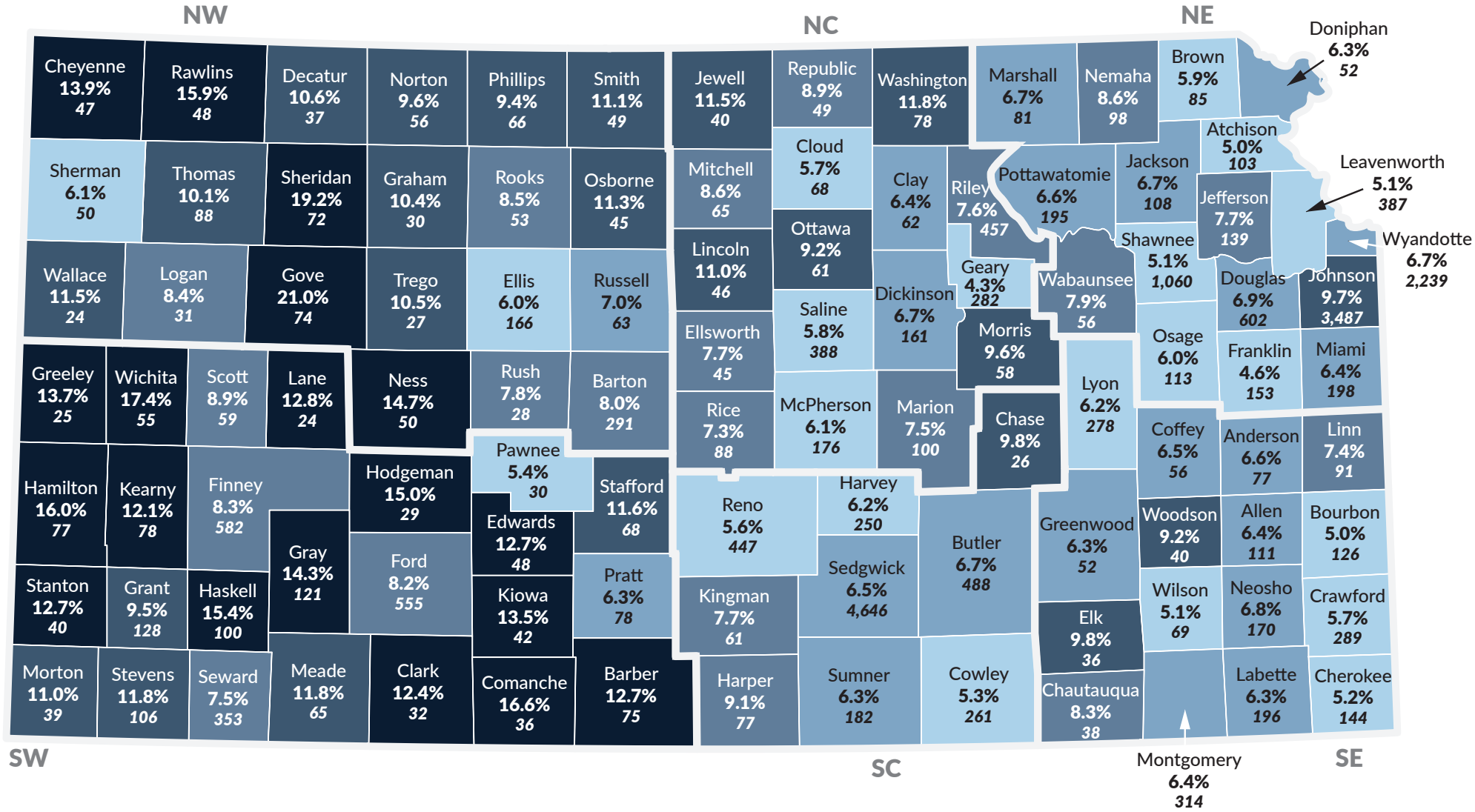
FACT SHEET SEPTEMBER 2020

WHERE DO UNINSURED KANCARE ELIGIBLE CHILDREN LIVE?

Figure 1. **Kansas Children Age 0-18 Likely Eligible for KanCare: Uninsured Rate and Number by County and by Region, 2018**



County
Percent Uninsured
Number Uninsured

4.3%-6.2% | 6.3%-7.0% | 7.1%-9.1% | 9.2%-11.8% | 11.9%-21.0%

KDHE Region	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Kansas
Uninsured Rate	6.6%	7.1%	9.1%	6.4%	6.2%	9.4%	7.1%
Number Uninsured	2,224	9,156	1,395	6,438	2,087	2,845	24,145

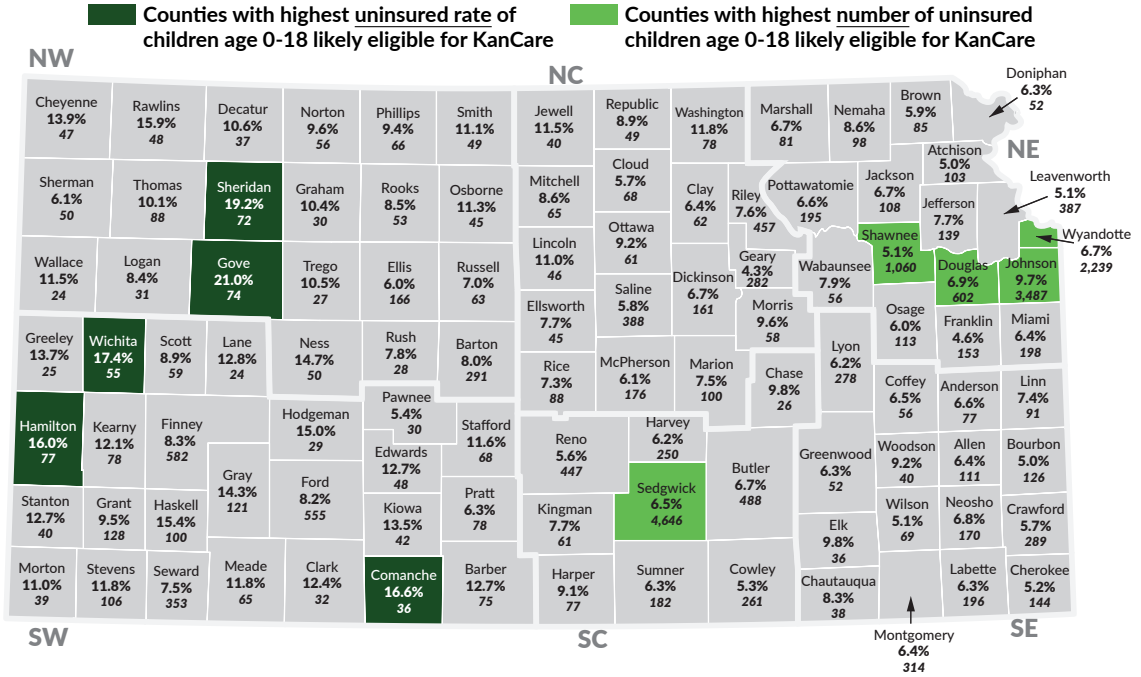
Nearly Half of Uninsured KanCare-Eligible Children Live in Five Counties

This fact sheet is one of a series examining health insurance coverage among Kansas counties using the most recent county-level health insurance estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Additional analyses of health insurance coverage for adults and kids are available on KHI's website, https://bit.ly/3mgRc8q.

Public health insurance through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is a key source of coverage in Kansas for children whose families have low income.

These programs are jointly financed with federal and state funds, and administered in Kansas through KanCare. In 2018, Medicaid or CHIP was available for children living in low-income families that earned less than 240 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) ($60,240 for a family of four in 2018).

Most (92.9 percent) children eligible for KanCare were insured in 2018.



KEY POINTS

- ✓ Counties in the Southwest and Northwest regions of the state generally had the highest uninsured rates for children likely eligible for KanCare. Out of 46 counties in Western Kansas, 41 had uninsured rates for children likely eligible for KanCare that were higher than the statewide rate (7.1 percent).
- ✓ Nearly half (49.8 percent) of uninsured children likely eligible for KanCare lived in one of the five most populous counties — Douglas, Johnson, Sedgwick, Shawnee and Wyandotte — representing 12,034 children.

Note: Uninsured Kansas children age 0-18 likely eligible for Medicaid/CHIP (based on income alone) = 24,145. Children living in families with incomes less than or equal to 250 percent of the federal poverty level ($62,750 for a family of four in 2018) were used as a proxy for those eligible for Medicaid/CHIP, which is 240 percent of FPL ($60,240 for a family of four in 2018) because all income categories are not available in the data. The uninsured rate is calculated by dividing the number of uninsured children likely eligible for KanCare by the total number of children likely eligible for KanCare. Regions are designated using the Kansas Department of Health and Environment District Office Boundaries map. County-level data in Excel format are available at bit.ly/SAHIE2020.

Source: KHI analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2018 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates.

About the Data

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ABOUT THE FACT SHEET

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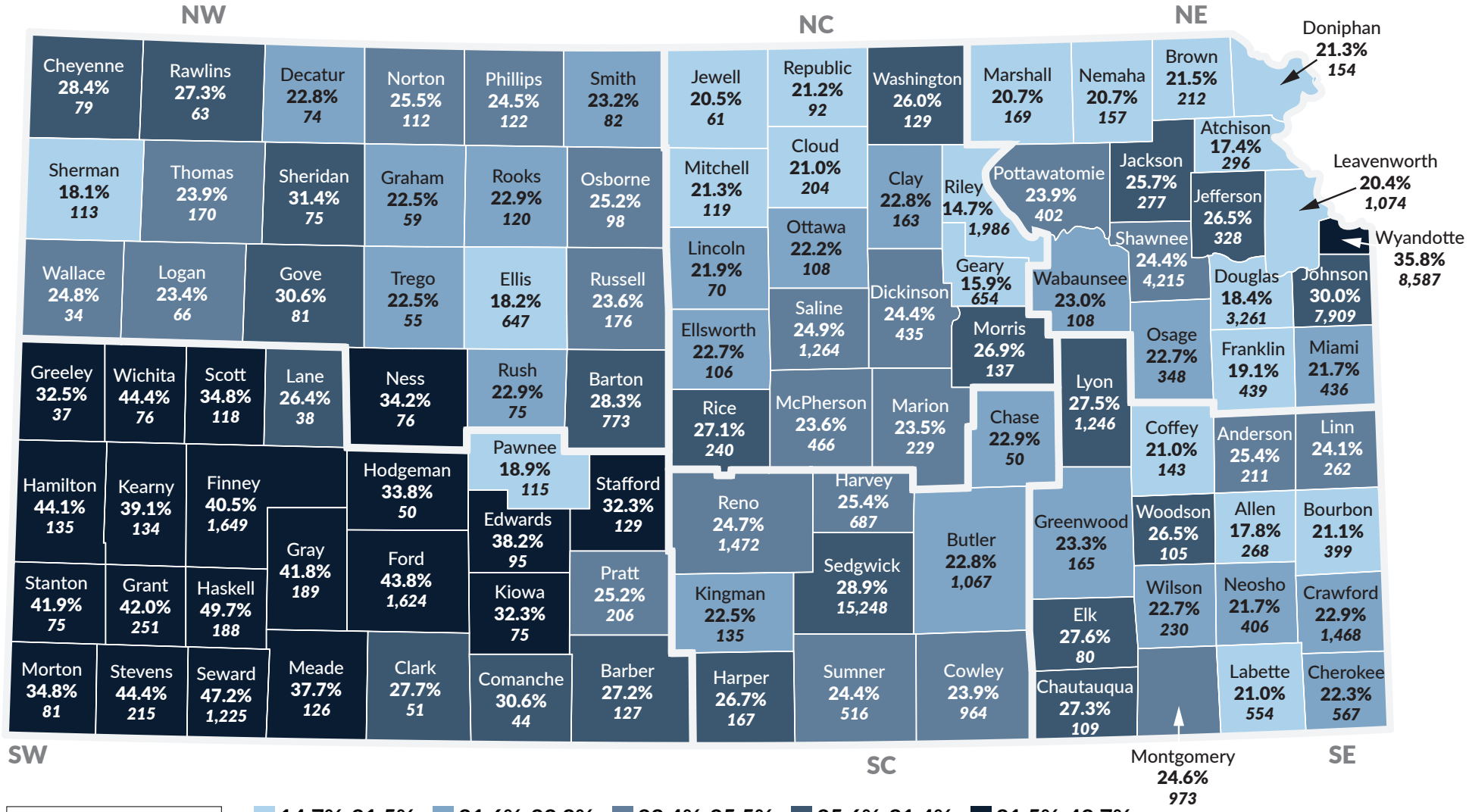
FACT SHEET SEPTEMBER 2020

WHERE DO UNINSURED KANSAS ADULTS LIVE WHO WOULD BE POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID IF EXPANDED?

Figure 1. **Uninsured Rate and Number by County for Kansas Adults Potentially Eligible for Medicaid, if Expanded, 2018**



County
Percent Uninsured
Number Uninsured

14.7%-21.5% | 21.6%-23.3% | 23.4%-25.5% | 25.6%-31.4% | 31.5%-49.7%

KDHE Region	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Kansas
Uninsured Rate	19.3%	26.8%	23.6%	27.5%	23.4%	39.9%	26.4%
Number Uninsured	6,463	28,372	3,150	20,306	7,186	7,053	72,530

Half of Uninsured Adults Who Would Be Eligible for Medicaid, if Expanded, Live in Five Most Populous Counties

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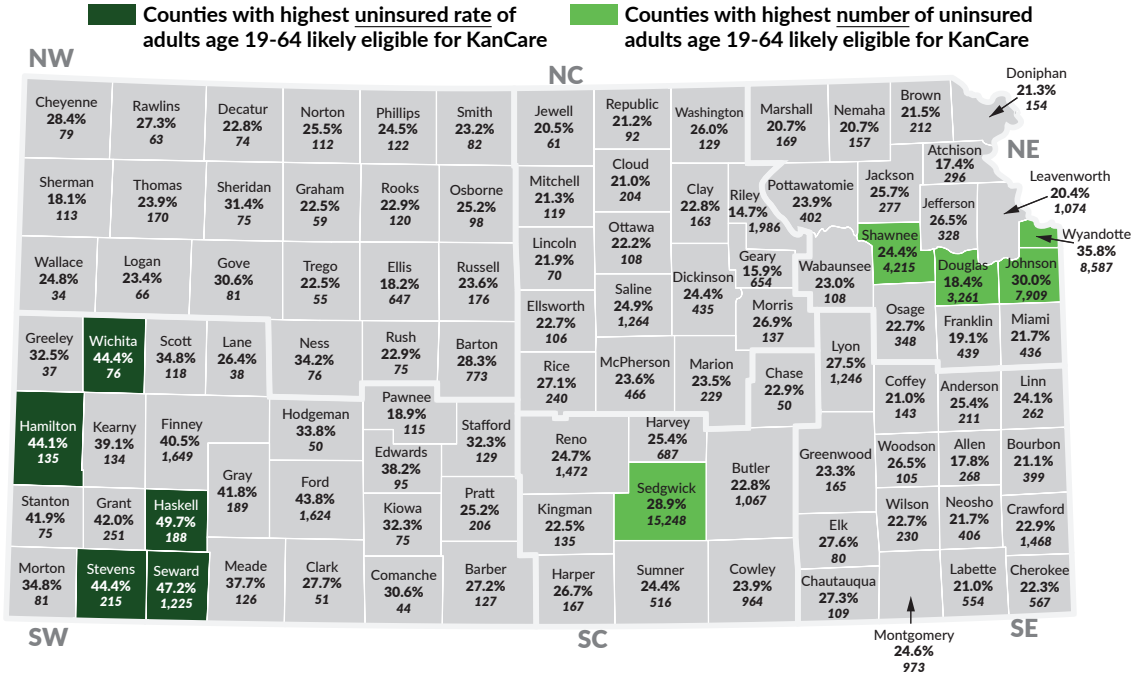
Public health insurance through Medicaid is a key source of coverage for adults with low income in Kansas. The Medicaid program is jointly financed with federal and state funds and is administered in Kansas through KanCare.

In 2018, Medicaid was available for adults with children whose family income was less than 38 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) ($9,538 for a family of four in 2018). In recent years, Kansas policymakers have debated expanding the Medicaid program to cover all adults with family income no more than 138 percent FPL ($16,753 for an individual and $34,638 for a family of four in 2018).

More than a quarter (26.4 percent) of adults potentially eligible for Medicaid if expanded were uninsured in 2018.



KEY POINTS

- ✓ Among adults potentially eligible for Medicaid if expanded, counties in Southwest Kansas had the highest uninsured rate (39.9 percent for the region overall). This is more than twice the overall uninsured rate for adults potentially eligible for Medicaid in counties in North Central Kansas, which had the lowest regional uninsured rate for that group, at 19.3 percent.
- ✓ More than half of the uninsured Kansas adults potentially eligible for Medicaid if expanded lived in one of the five most populous counties — Douglas, Johnson, Sedgwick, Shawnee and Wyandotte (54.1 percent or 39,220).

Note: Uninsured Kansas adults potentially eligible for Medicaid, if expanded, includes all those age 19-64 with family income ≤138 percent federal poverty level (FPL) ($16,753 for an individual and $34,638 for a family of four in 2018) = 72,530. These estimates likely include some uninsured adults who are currently eligible for Medicaid due to family income or a qualifying status such as disability. The uninsured rate is calculated by dividing the number of uninsured adults with family income at or below 138 percent of FPL by the total number of adults with family income at or below 138 percent of FPL. County-level data in Excel format are available at bit.ly/SAHIE2020.

Source: KHI analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2018 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates.

About the Data

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ABOUT THE FACT SHEET

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