TELEHEALTH: PORTAL TO HEALTH

February 25, 2021

WHO WE ARE

- Nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization based in Topeka.

- Established in 1995 with a multi-year grant by the Kansas Health Foundation and located directly across from Kansas Statehouse in downtown Topeka.

- Committed to convening meaningful conversations around tough topics related to health.

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Analyst

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Analyst

Telehealth: Portal to Health

Sydney McClendon and Emily Burgen, M.P.H.
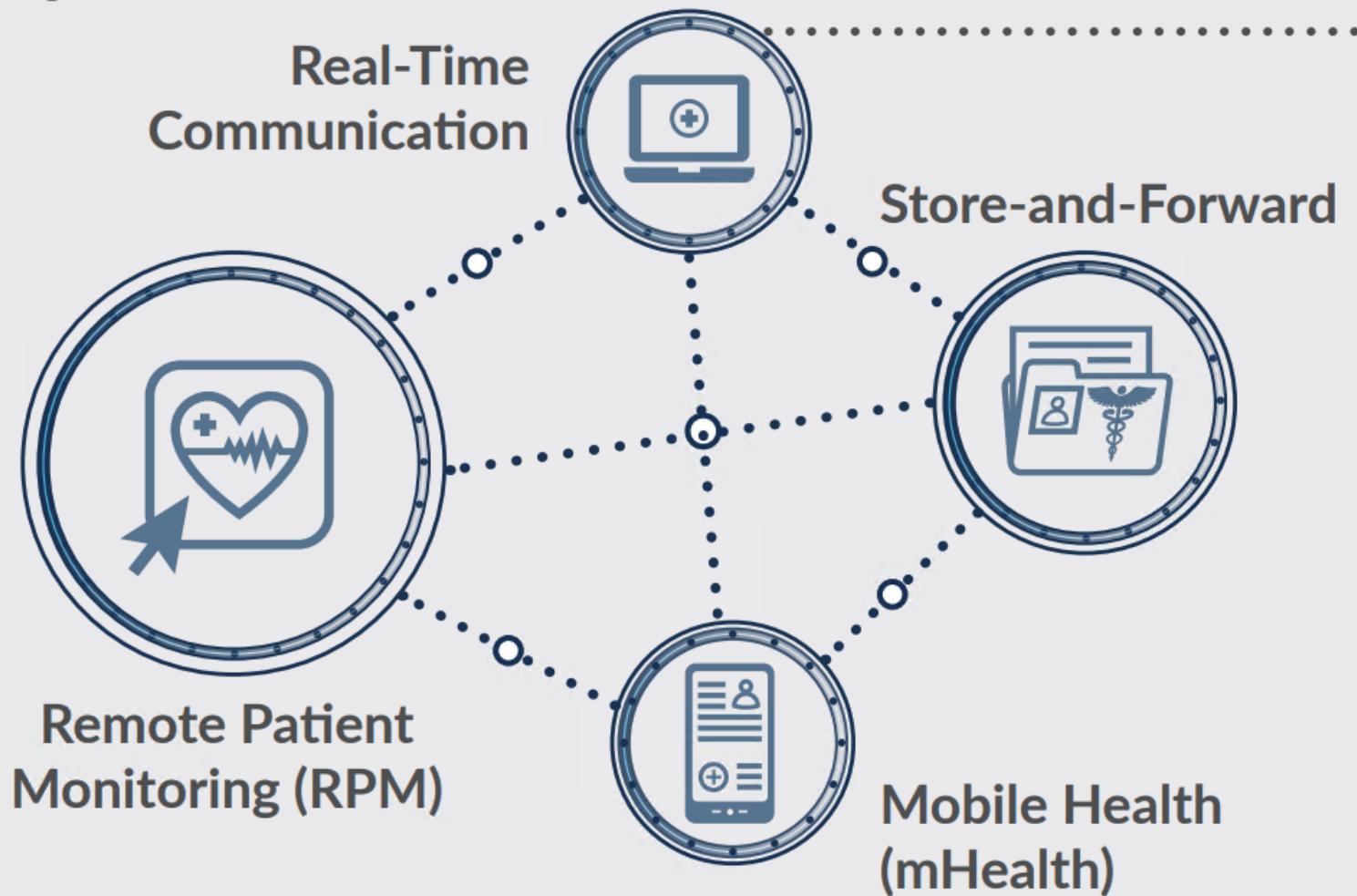
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TELEHEALTH ACCESS & POLICY

"**Telehealth** is defined as the use of electronic information and telecommunication technologies to support long-distance clinical health care, patient and professional health-related education, public health, and health administration."
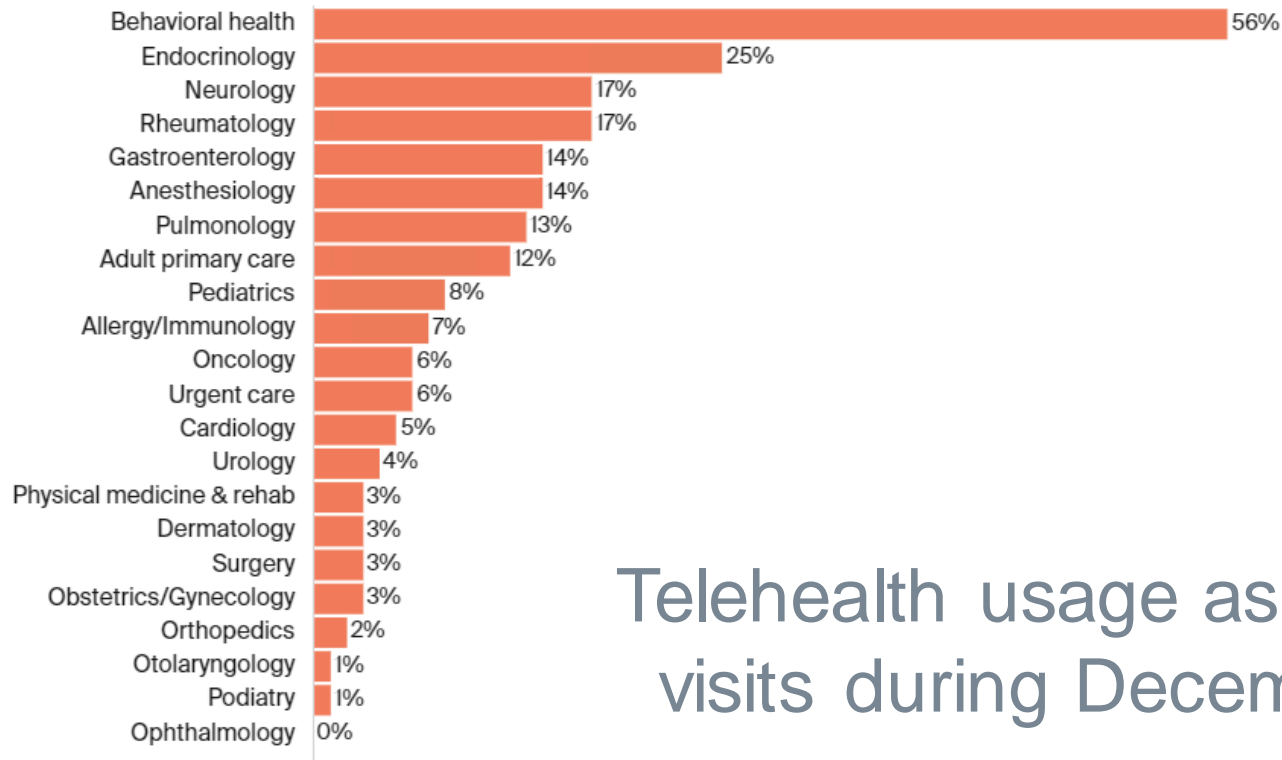
Figure 1. Telehealth Modalities

Real-Time Communication

Store-and-Forward

Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM)

Mobile Health (mHealth)

TELEHEALTH RESEARCH

- Utilization
- Cost
- Health Outcomes

Telehealth usage as % of total visits during December 2020

Behavioral health: 56%
Endocrinology: 25%
Neurology: 17%
Rheumatology: 17%
Gastroenterology: 14%
Anesthesiology: 14%
Pulmonology: 13%
Adult primary care: 12%
Pediatrics: 8%
Allergy/Immunology: 7%
Oncology: 6%
Urgent care: 6%
Cardiology: 5%
Urology: 4%
Physical medicine & rehab: 3%
Dermatology: 3%
Surgery: 3%
Obstetrics/Gynecology: 3%
Orthopedics: 2%
Otolaryngology: 1%
Podiatry: 1%
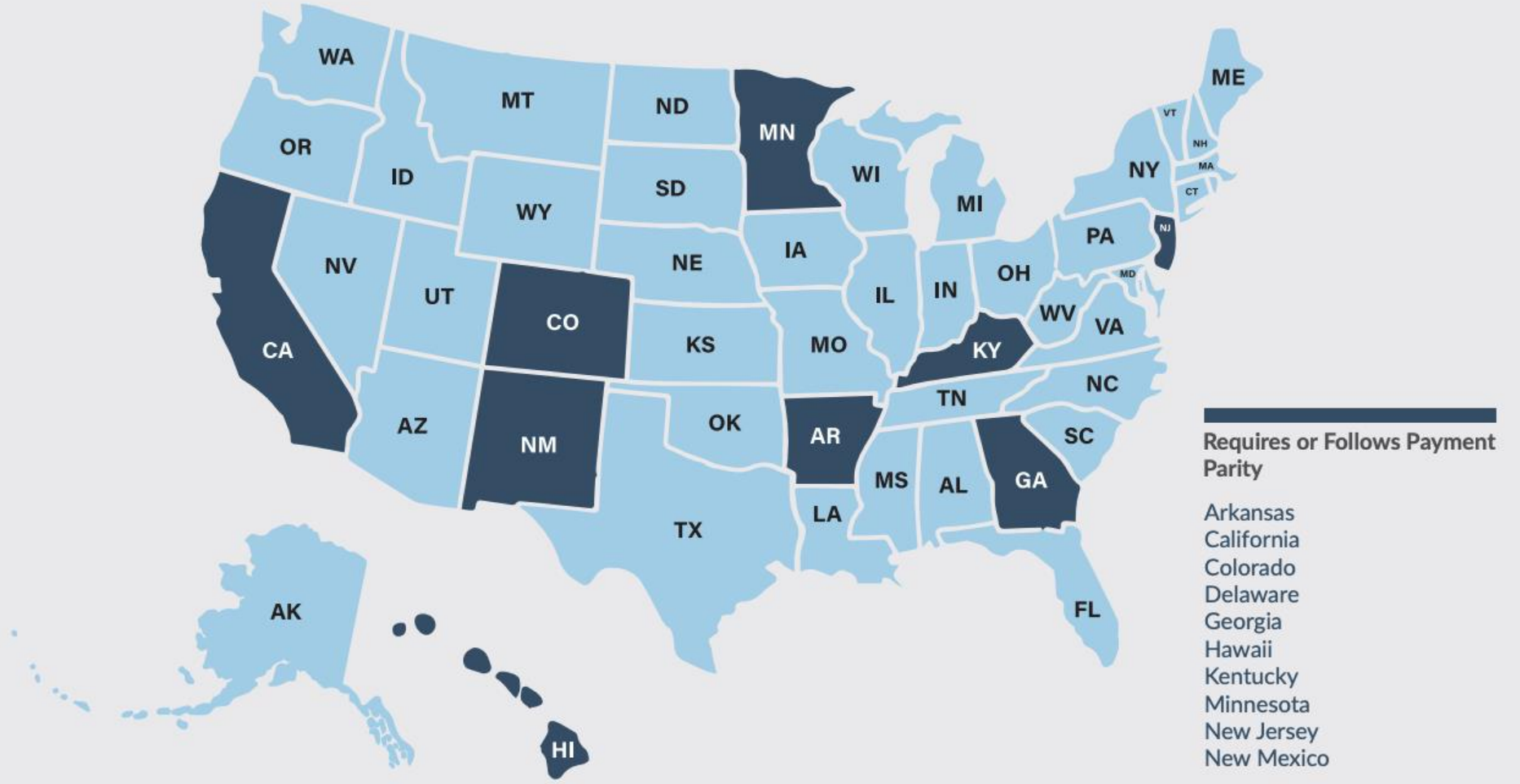Ophthalmology: 0%

⬇ Download data

Note: Data presented are for the selected specialties shown only and expressed as a percentage: the number of telemedicine visits over the final three nonholiday weeks of 2020 is the numerator, while the number of visits in the baseline week (March 1–7), multiplied by three, is the denominator. Telemedicine includes both telephone and video visits. We did not include weeks in December with holidays or the shortened week at the end of the year.

https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/2021/feb/impact-covid-19-outpatient-visits-2020-visits-stable-despite-late-surge

TELEHEALTH POLICY

- Insurance coverage & reimbursement

- Licensure

- Provider & patient participation

Figure 2. **Payment Parity in States Prior to COVID-19**

Requires or Follows Payment Parity

Arkansas
California
Colorado
Delaware
Georgia
Hawaii
Kentucky
Minnesota
New Jersey
New Mexico

CURRENT BILLS

HB 2206
- Originating/ distant sites
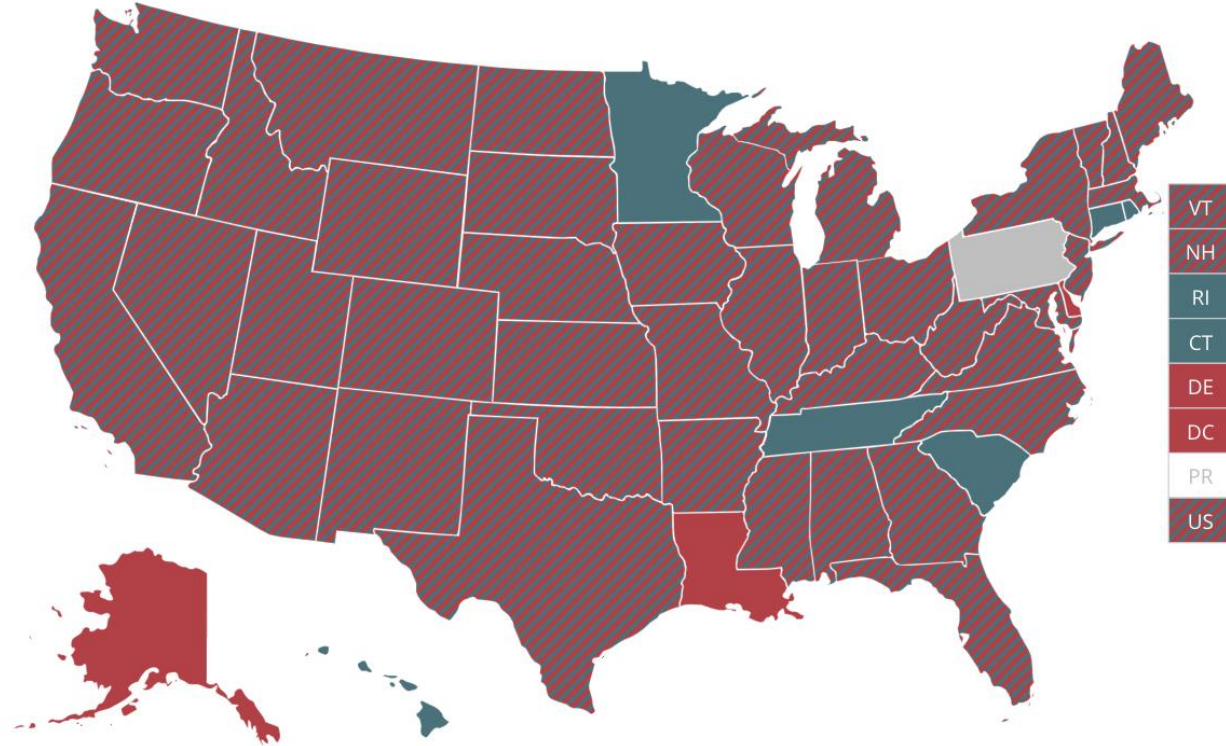- Care coordination
- Verbal consent
- Specialty referral

HB 2066
- Out-of-state licensure (physicians)

HB 2209
- Out-of-state licensure (psychologists)

Telehealth Legislation & Regulation

Available at: https://track.govhawk.com/reports/24PKO/public

BROADBAND & ADEQUATE INTERNET ACCESS
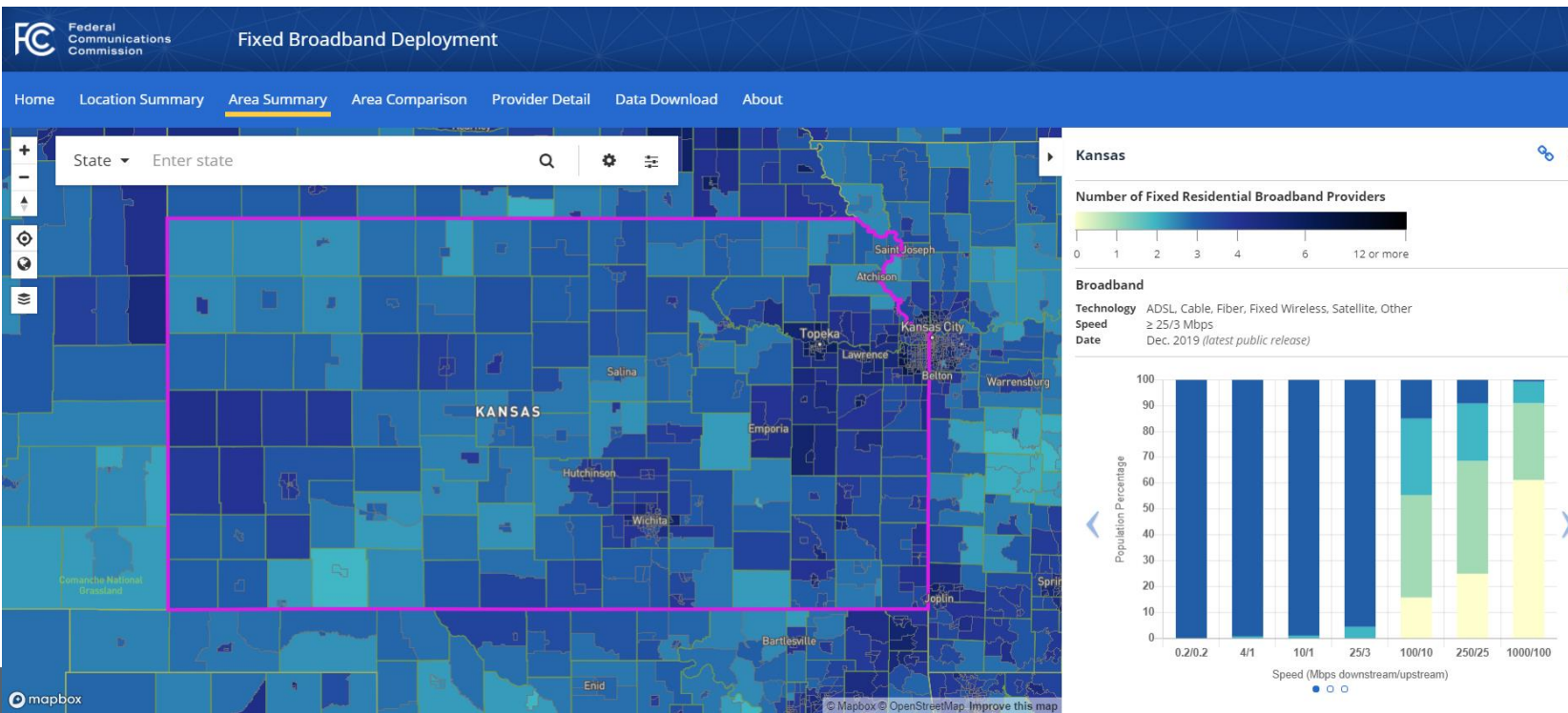
ADEQUATE INTERNET ACCESS

- Adequate internet access requires both device availability and high-speed internet connection.
  - **High-speed internet connection**: The FCC currently defines a high-speed internet connection as 25 megabits per second (Mbps) download speeds and 3 Mbps upload speeds. This includes cable, fiber-optic and digital scriber line (DSL).
  - **Device availability**: A desktop, laptop or tablet that provides appropriate screen size and allows full features of applications for telehealth and online leaning.

BROADBAND

- The FCC currently defines a high-speed internet connection as 25 megabits per second (Mbps) download speeds and 3 Mbps upload speeds. This includes cable, fiber-optic and digital scriber line (DSL).

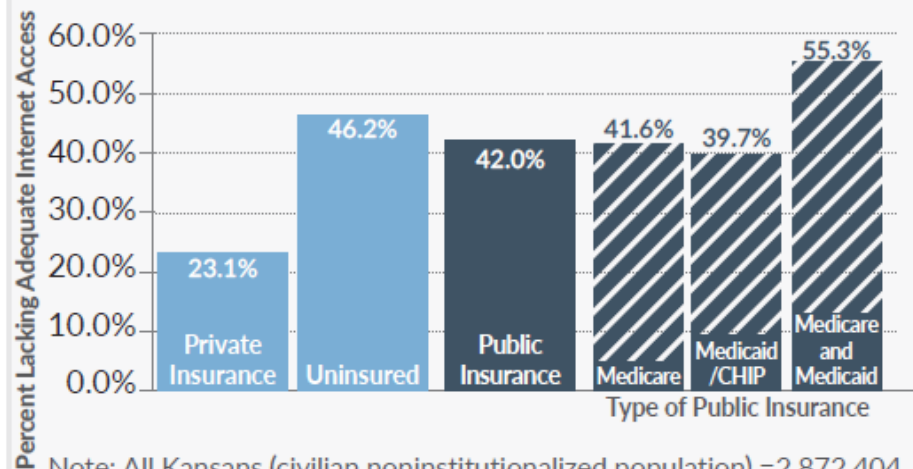# FCC BROADBAND COVERAGE

ADEQUATE INTERNET ACCESS

Figure 3. Lack of Adequate Internet Access by Source of Insurance Coverage in Kansas, 2019

Note: All Kansans (civilian noninstitutionalized population) =2,872,404. Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: KHI analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2019 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample files.

ADEQUATE INTERNET ACCESS

Figure 2. **Lack of Adequate Internet Access by Population Characteristic in Kansas, 2019**

Note: All Kansans (civilian noninstitutionalized population) =2,872,404. People who did not report household income were not included in the analysis by federal poverty level (FPL). Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: KHI analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2019 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample files.

Lack of Adequate Internet Access in Kansas, 2019

Kansans Lacking Adequate Internet Access = 29.8 percent

Percent of Population Lacking Adequate Internet Access, 2019

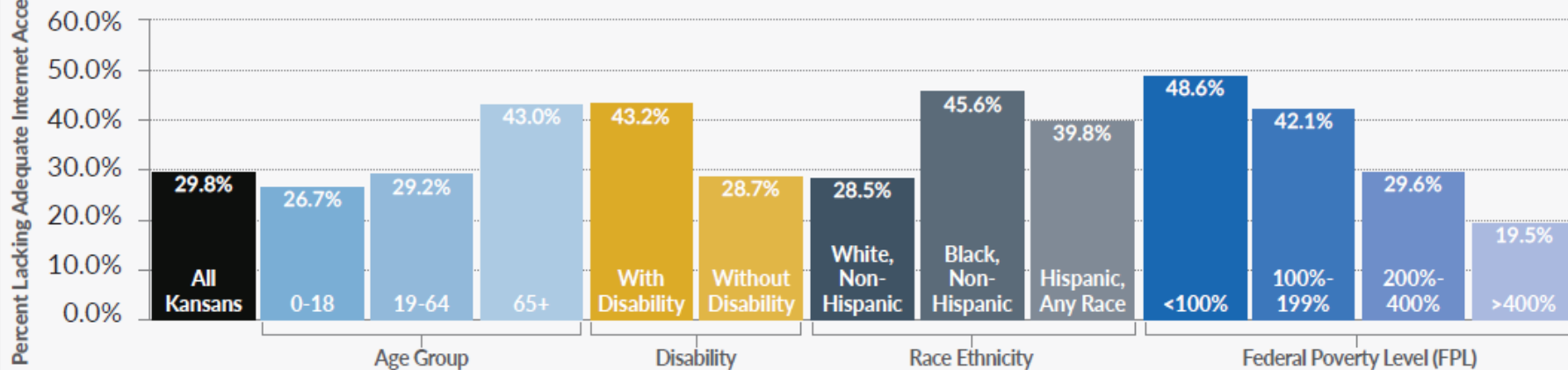| ≤10.0% | 10.0%-19.9% | 20.0%-29.9% | 30.0%-39.9% | >40.0% |

Note: All Kansans (civilian noninstitutionalized population) = 2,872,404. Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.
Source: KHI analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2019 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample files.
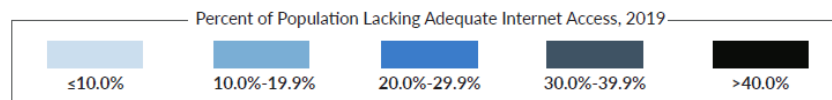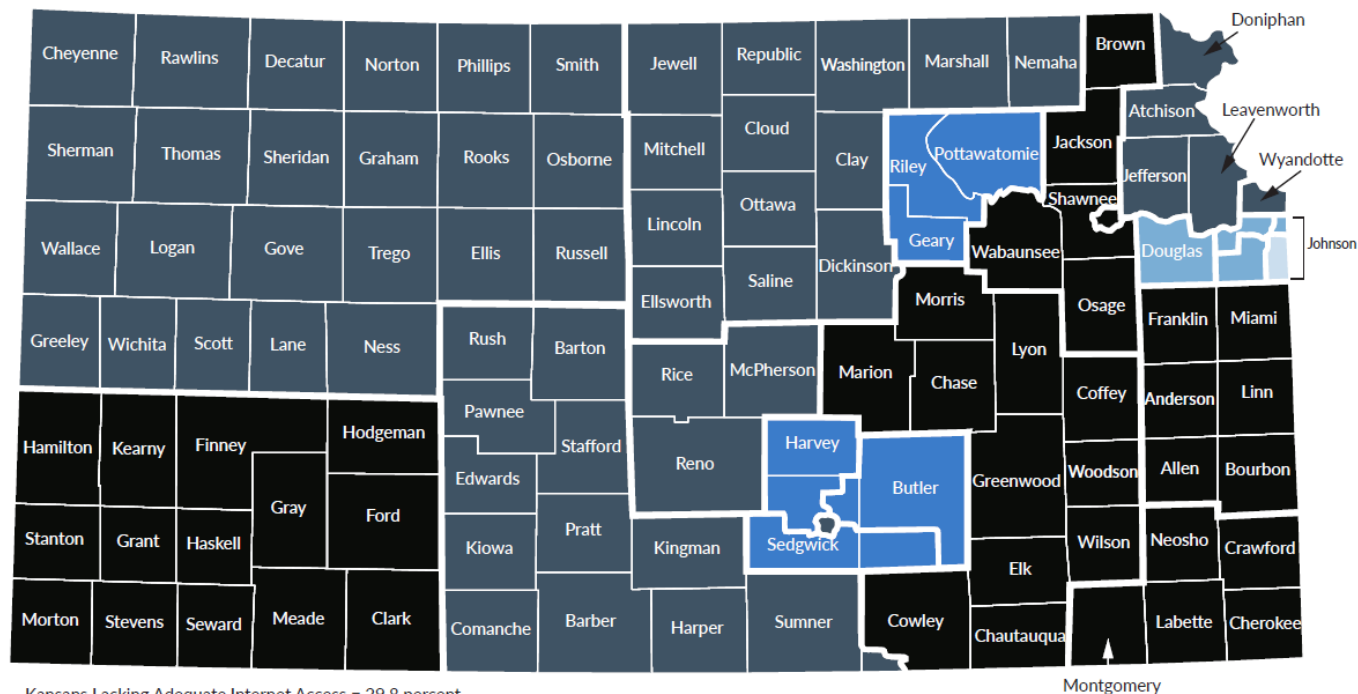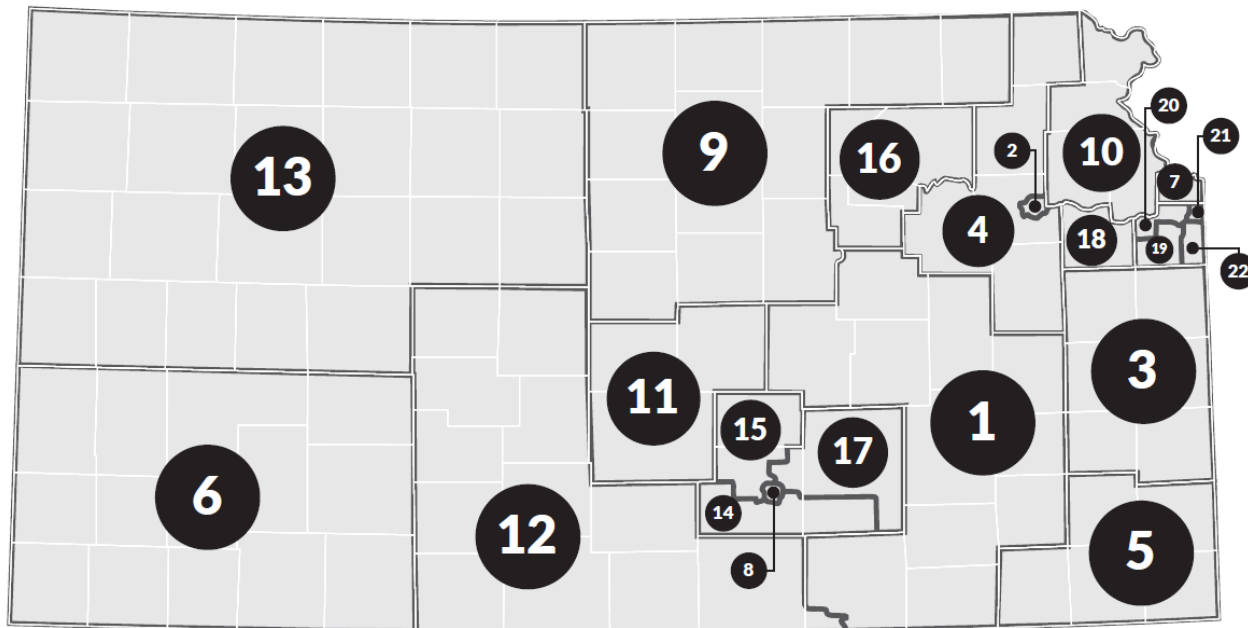
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Kansas Public Use Microdata (PUMS) Areas

Regions, in Order of Percent Lacking Adequate Internet Access:

1. Flint Hills (46.4%)
2. Shawnee County — Topeka Only (45.5%)
3. East Central Kansas (44.7%)
4. Shawnee (not Topeka), Osage, Jackson, Brown and Wabaunsee (44.4%)
5. Southeast Kansas (43.6%)
6. Southwest Kansas (42.7%)
7. Wyandotte County (39.9%)
8. Sedgwick County — Central Wichita (39.6%)
9. North Central Kansas (36.0%)
10. Northeast Kansas (33.2%)
11. Central Kansas (33.1%)
12. South Central Kansas (33.0%)
13. Northwest Kansas (30.5%)
14. Sedgwick County — South Wichita and Derby and Butler — Southwest (28.0%)
15. Sedgwick County — Northwest and Harvey County (26.1%)
16. Riley, Geary and Pottawatomie Counties (25.7%)
17. Sedgwick County — Northeast (23.6%)
18. Douglas County (17.3%)
19. Johnson County — Southwest (13.8%)
20. Johnson County — Northwest (13.2%)
21. Johnson County — Northeast (12.1%)
22. Johnson County — Southeast (10.2%)

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LACK OF ADEQUATE INTERNET ACCESS

Figure 1. Lack of Adequate Internet Access in Kansas by Geographic Area, 2019

Area	No connection, no device	No connection, with device	Connection, no device	Adequate Access	Adequate %
Kansas	10.2%	16.4%	3.2%	29.8%	70.2%
Flint Hills	15.4%	27.4%	3.6%	46.4%	53.6%
Shawnee County — Topeka Only	25.2%	17.6%	2.7%	45.5%	54.5%
East Central Kansas	15.7%	27.4%	1.6%	44.7%	55.3%
Shawnee (not Topeka), Osage, Jackson, Brown and Wabaunsee	9.4%	33.6%	1.4%	44.4%	55.6%
Southeast Kansas	17.7%	21.4%	4.5%	43.6%	56.4%
Southwest Kansas	17.4%	18.6%	6.7%	42.7%	57.3%
Wyandotte County	17.1%	16.1%	6.7%	39.9%	60.1%
Sedgwick County — Central Wichita	17.9%	16.7%	5.0%	39.6%	60.4%
North Central Kansas	13.5%	19.3%	3.2%	36.1%	63.9%
Northeast Kansas	7.5%	23.1%	2.6%	33.2%	66.8%
Central Kansas	9.5%	19.3%	4.3%	33.1%	66.9%
South Central Kansas	13.6%	14.1%	5.3%	32.9%	67.1%
Northwest Kansas	11.5%	17.7%	1.3%	30.5%	69.5%
Sedgwick County — South Wichita and Derby and Butler — Southwest	9.2%	15.5%	3.3%	28.0%	72.0%
Sedgwick County — Northwest and Harvey County	7.8%	12.0%	6.3%	26.1%	73.9%
Riley, Geary, & Pottawatomie Counties	6.0%	16.6%	3.1%	25.6%	74.4%
Sedgwick County — Northeast	6.1%	15.7%	1.8%	23.6%	76.4%
Douglas County	3.0%	11.6%	2.7%	17.4%	82.6%
Johnson County — Southwest	2.9%	10.3%	0.6%	13.9%	86.1%
Johnson County — Northwest	3.3%	7.3%	2.6%	13.2%	86.8%
Johnson County — Northeast	4.2%	7.1%	0.8%	12.1%	87.9%
Johnson County — Southeast	6.1%	1.4%	0.2%	7.7%	92.3%

Inadequate Internet Access —
- Percent of residents with no high-speed internet connection and no device.
- Percent of residents with no high-speed internet connection, but with a device.
- Percent of residents with a high-speed internet connection, but no device.

Adequate Internet Access —
- Percent of residents with a high-speed internet connection and a device.

Note: All Kansans (civilian noninstitutionalized population) =2,872,404. Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.
Source: KHI analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2019 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample files.
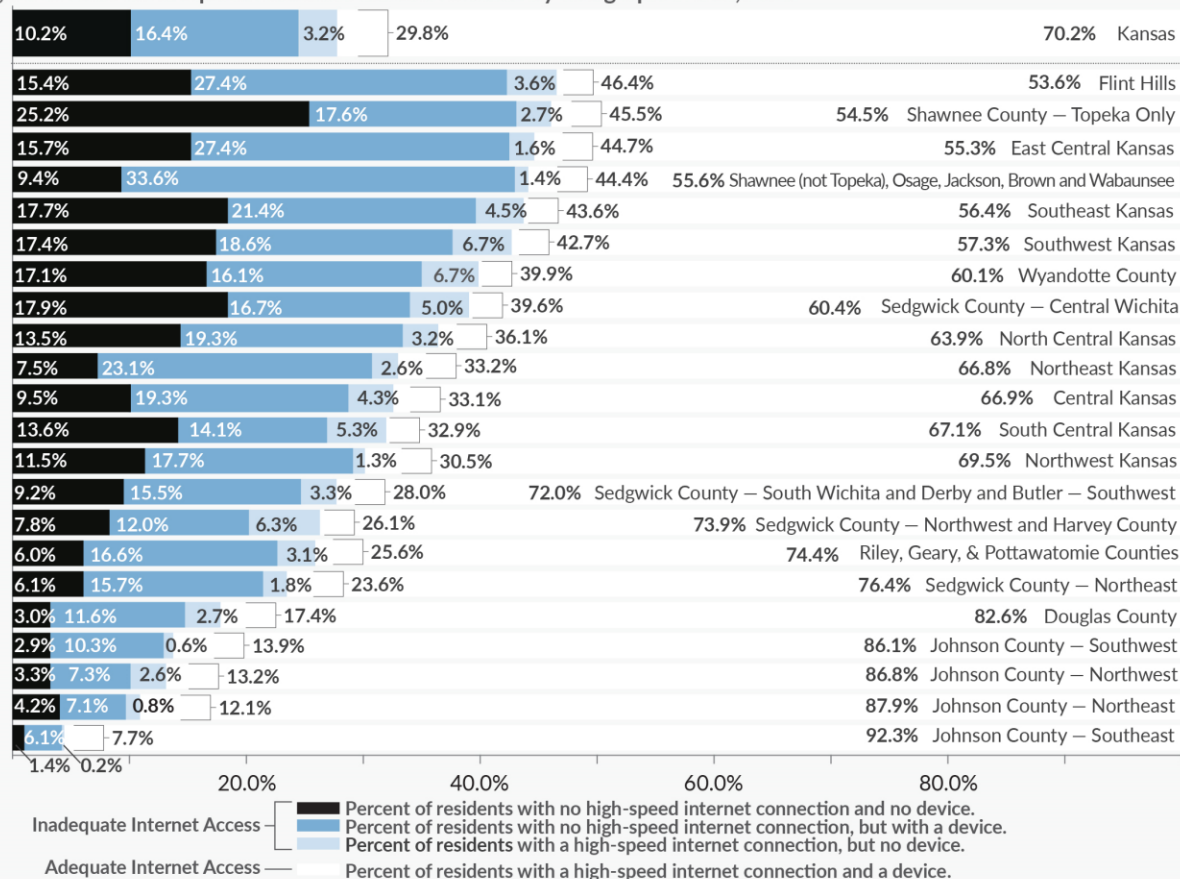
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PROGRESS

- The Office of Broadband Development was established in 2020

- Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program

- The federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act

THANK YOU
Any questions?

You can connect with us at:

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