



Access to Obstetrical Care in Kansas

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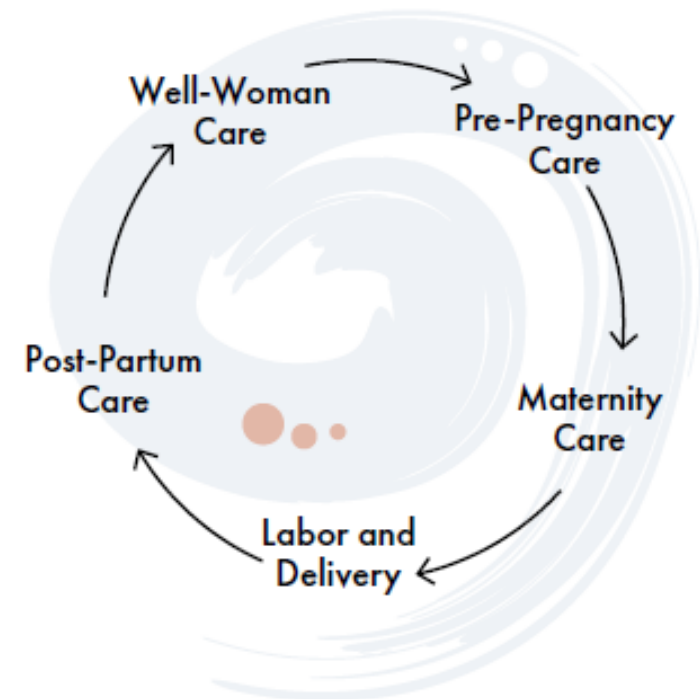
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Access to Obstetrical Care in Kansas

- Access to care in distance and availability of:
 - Outpatient prenatal clinics
 - Inpatient obstetrical services
 - Maternal and infant health providers
 - Nurses
 - Support services
 - Behavioral health

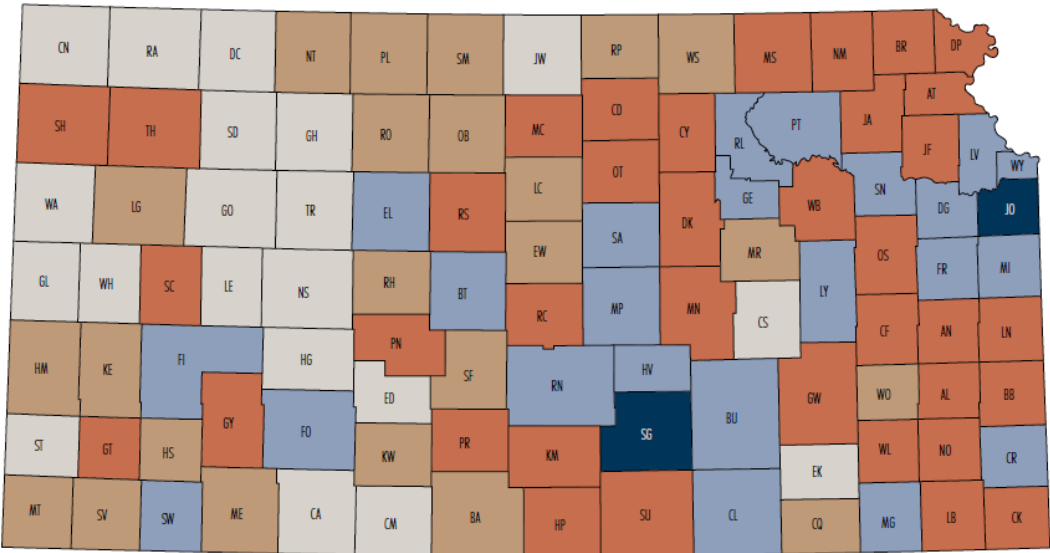
WELL MOTHER CYCLE OF CARE



Data Sources

- International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (2024)
- Kansas Behavioral Science Regulatory Board (2024)
- Kansas Board of Healing Arts (2024)
- Kansas Board of Nursing (2024)
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment (2023 & 2022)
- Kansas Health Institute (2024)
- Manually Collected Maternity Care Data (2023)
- United States Census (2022)
- United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service

REPRODUCTIVE AGED WOMEN BY COUNTY, 2022

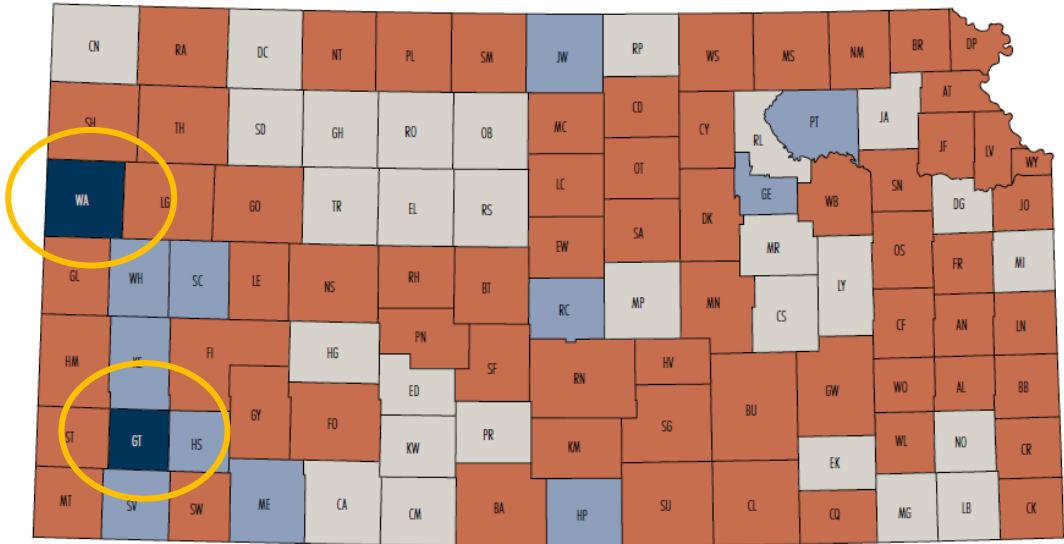


Population of Women of Reproductive Age (15-50) per County, 2022

0-499	500-999	1,000-4,999	5,000-49,999	50,000-150,000
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Maternity Care Need

BIRTH RATES AMONG WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE BY COUNTY, 2022

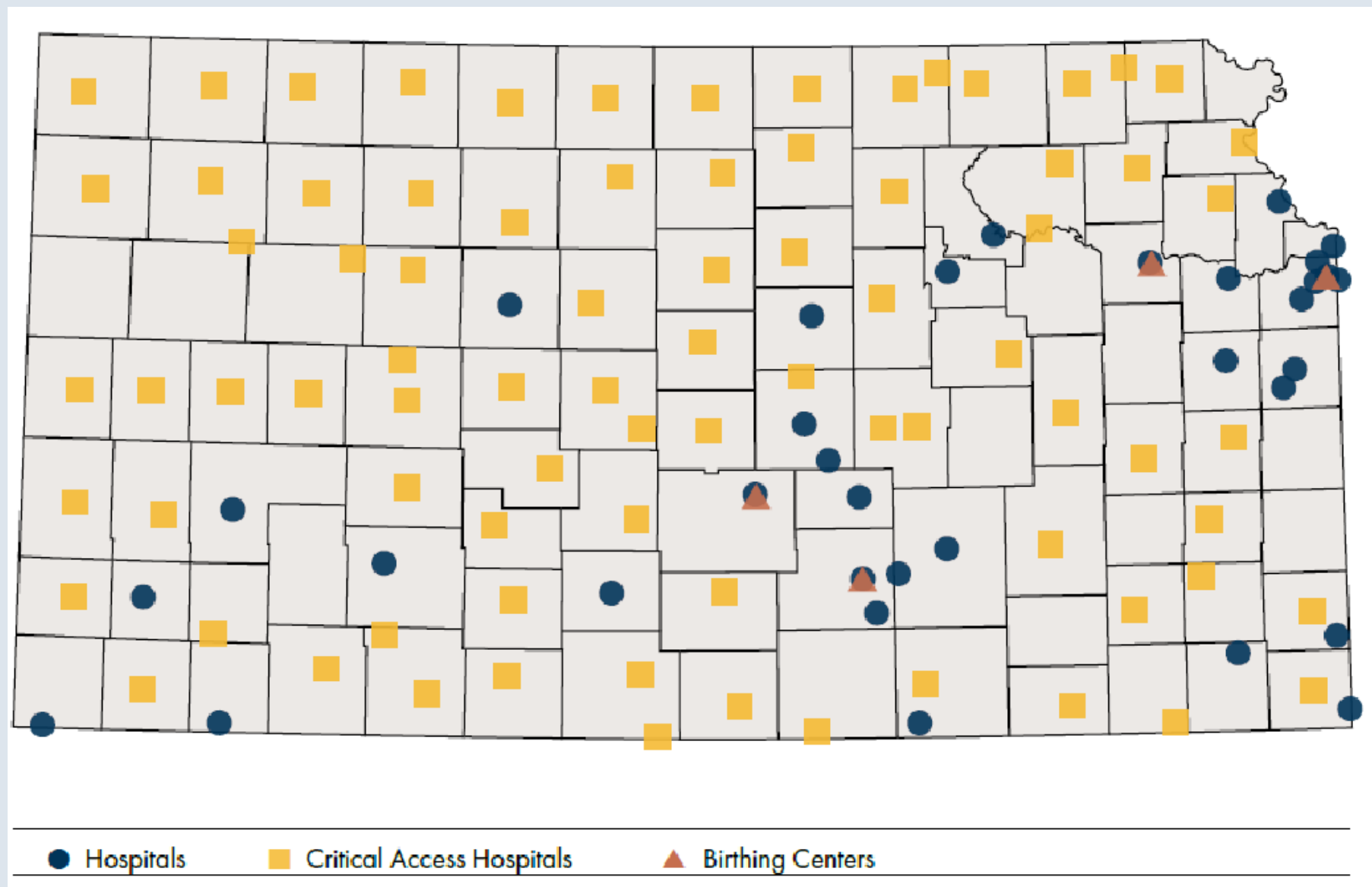


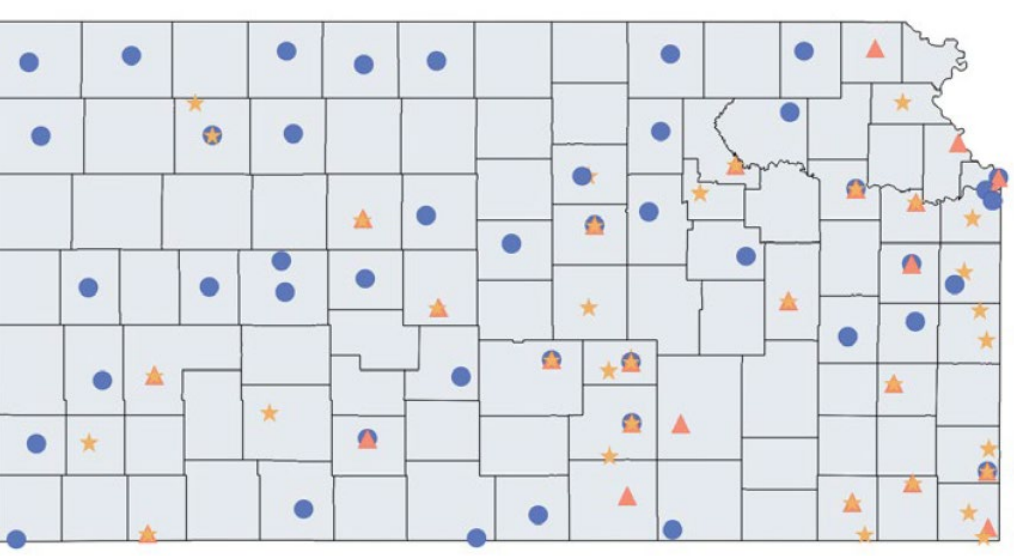
Live Births per 1,000 Residents of Reproductive Age (15-50), 2022

0-49	50-99	100-149	150-200
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Licensed Facilities With Acute Care, Inpatient Beds, 2023

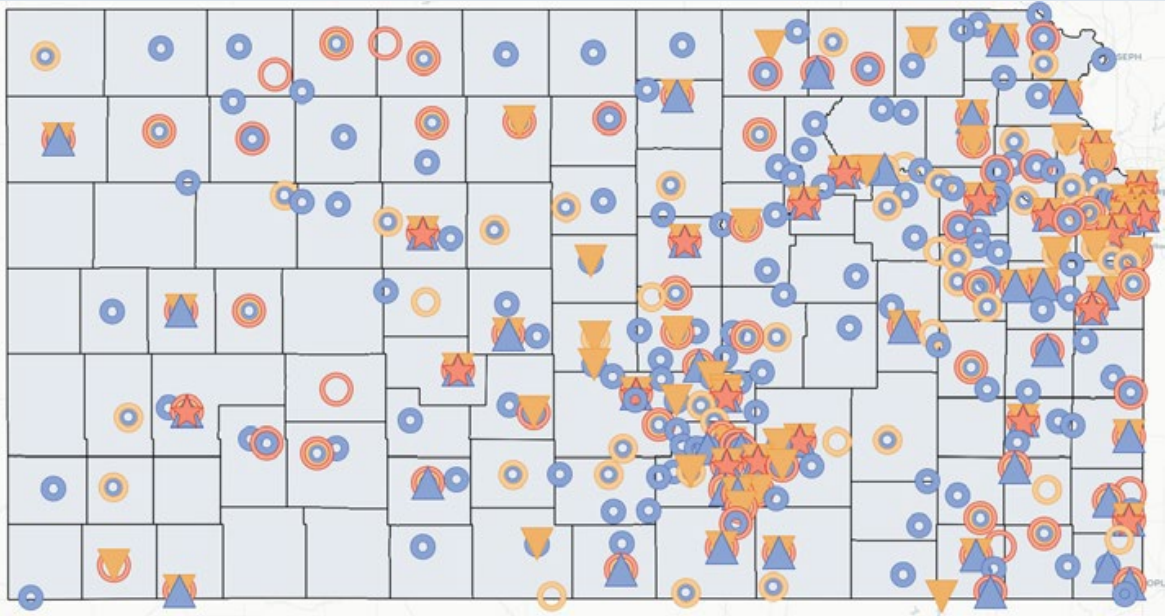




- Facilities offering behavioral health or mental health care
- ▲ Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs)
- ★ Federally Qualified Health Centers

Behavioral Health Access

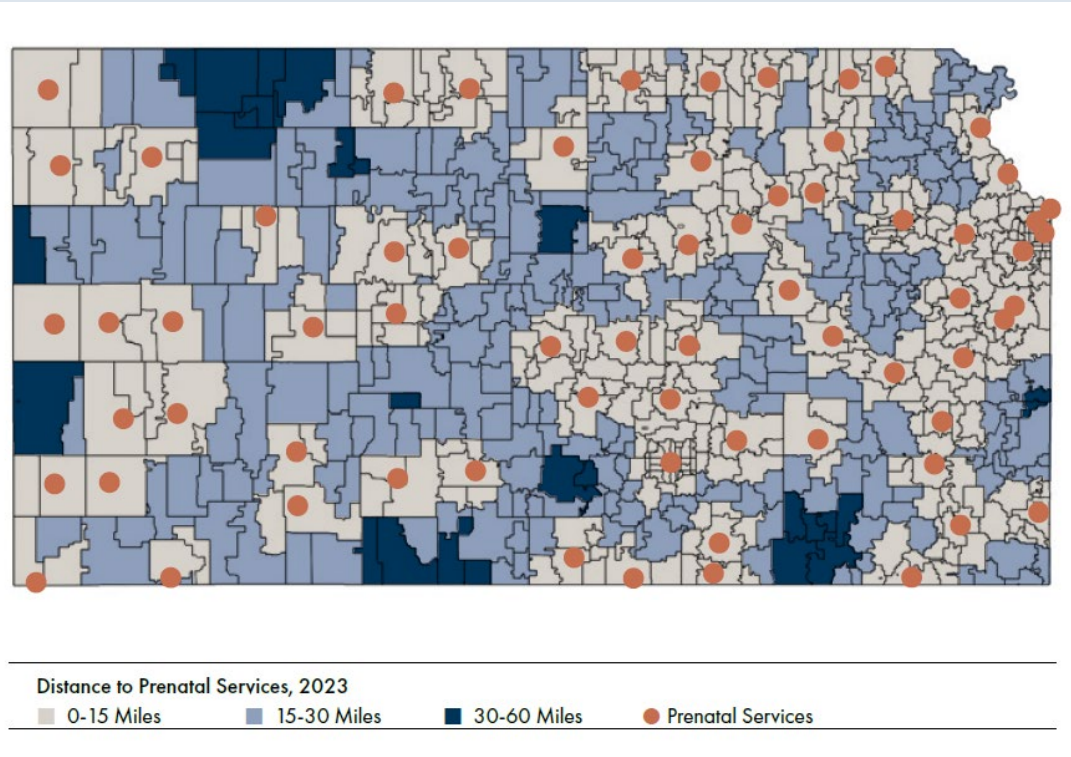
Provider Type	Number in KS
Licensed Social Workers	5,388
Professional Counselors	1,302
Substance Abuse Counselors	883
Marriage & Family Therapists	615
Psychologists	239
Psychiatrists	159



Licensed Mental Health Providers, 2023

- Social Workers
- Professional Counselors
- Substance Abuse Counselors
- ▼ Marriage and Family Therapy
- ▲ Clinical Psychologists
- ★ Psychiatrists

Distance to Prenatal Services, 2023

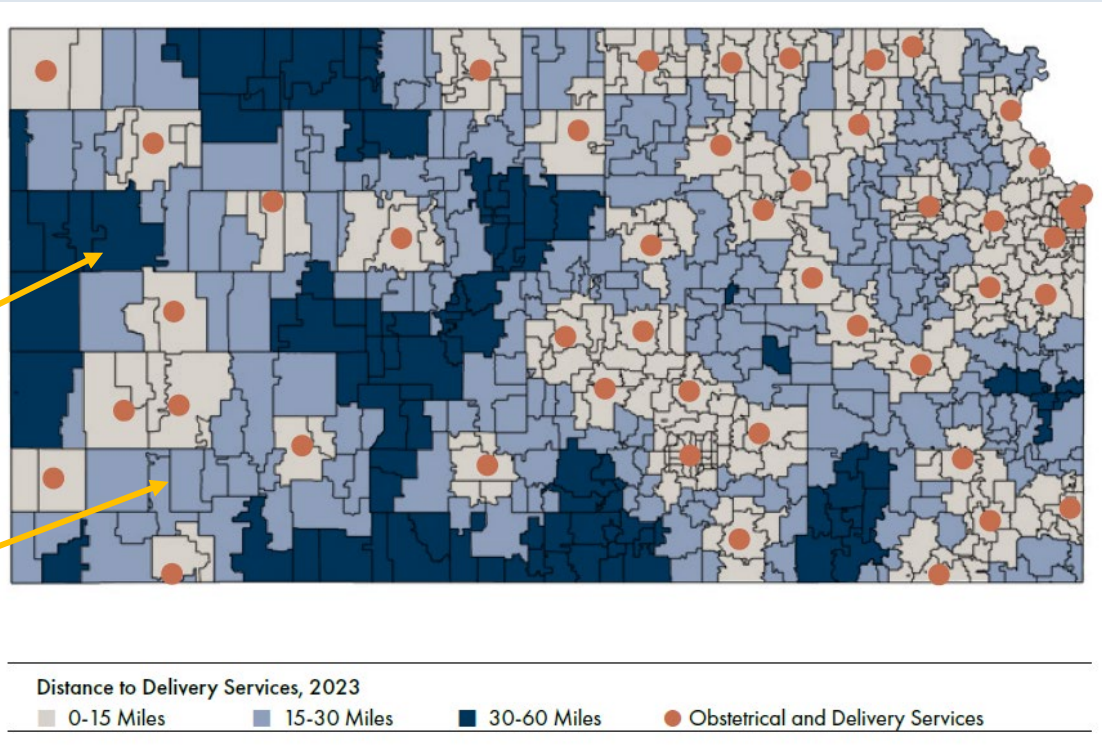


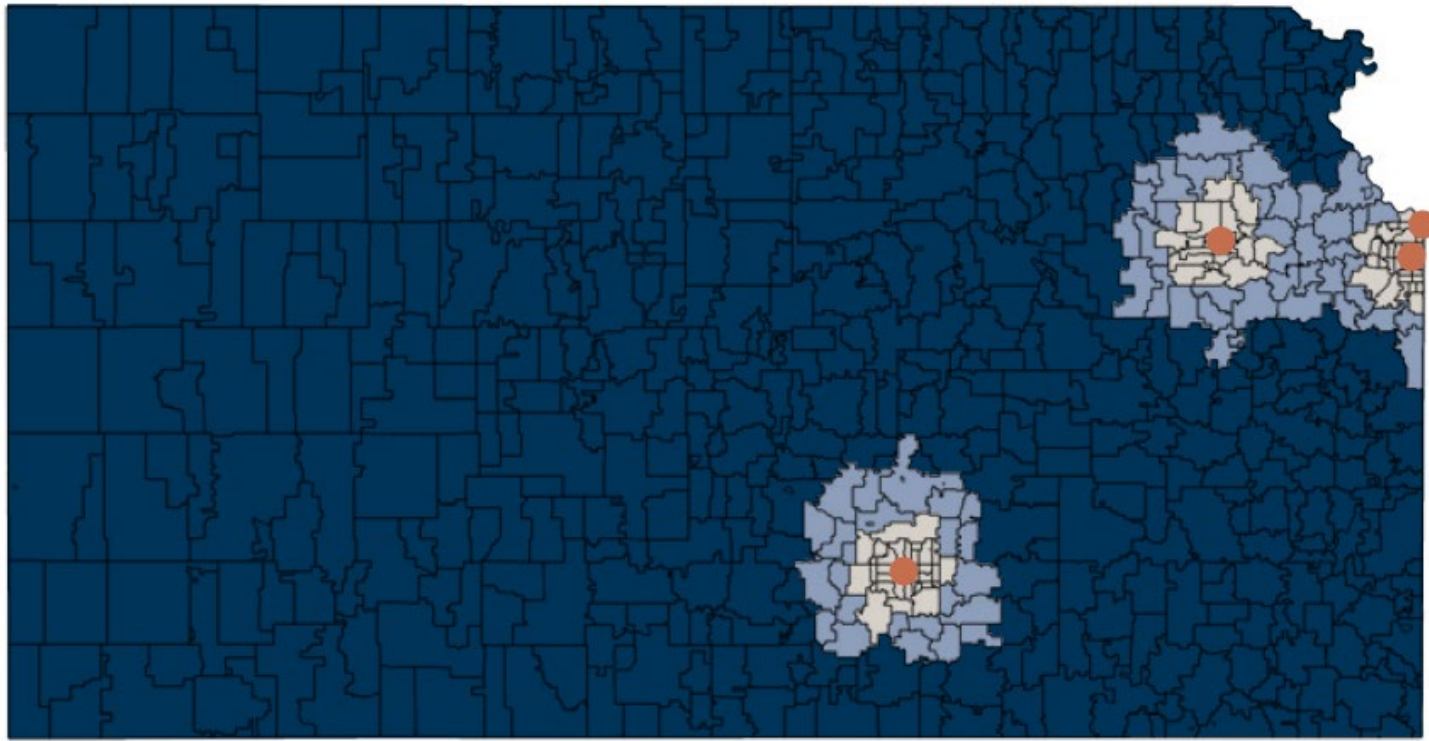
Distance to Maternity Care

Facilities Offering Inpatient Obstetrical Services, 2023

Wallace Co

Grant Co





Distance to High-Risk Maternal or Neonatal Services, 2023

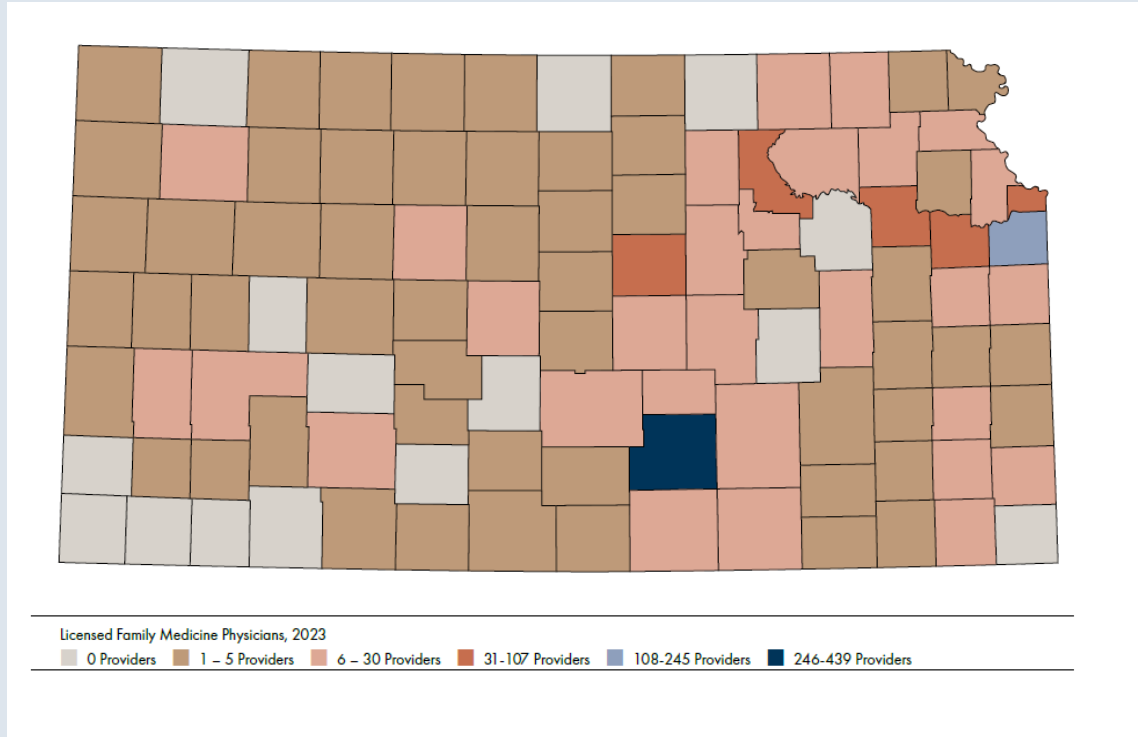
0-15 Miles 15-30 Miles >30 Miles High-Risk Maternity or Neonatal Services

Distance to Maternity Care Specialists

- Maximum mileage is 283 miles
- 75% of Zip codes are further than 30 miles



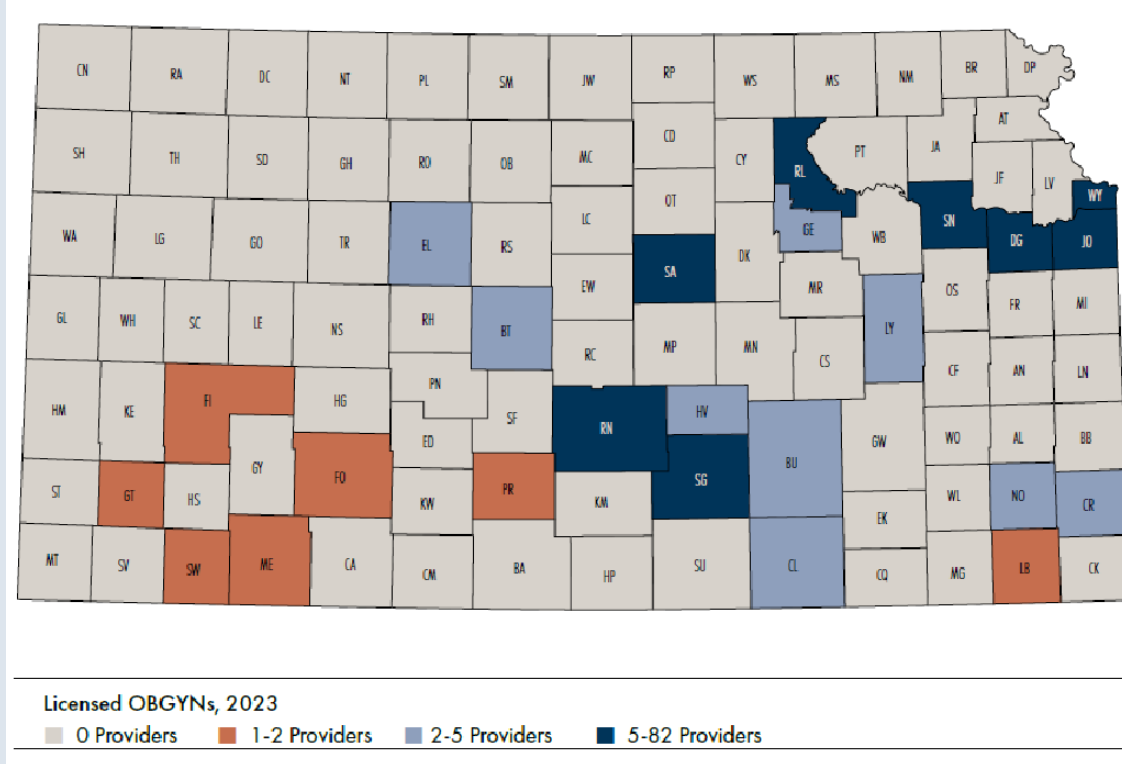
Family Medicine Physicians by County, 2023



Family Medicine Coverage

- 4.1 family medicine physicians per 10,000 residents in rural counties compared to 3.9 physicians per 10,000 residents in urban counties.
- This is the opposite of national data BUT right direction for KS coverage.
- Family medicine physicians provide full scope of care for low- to moderate- risk pregnancies

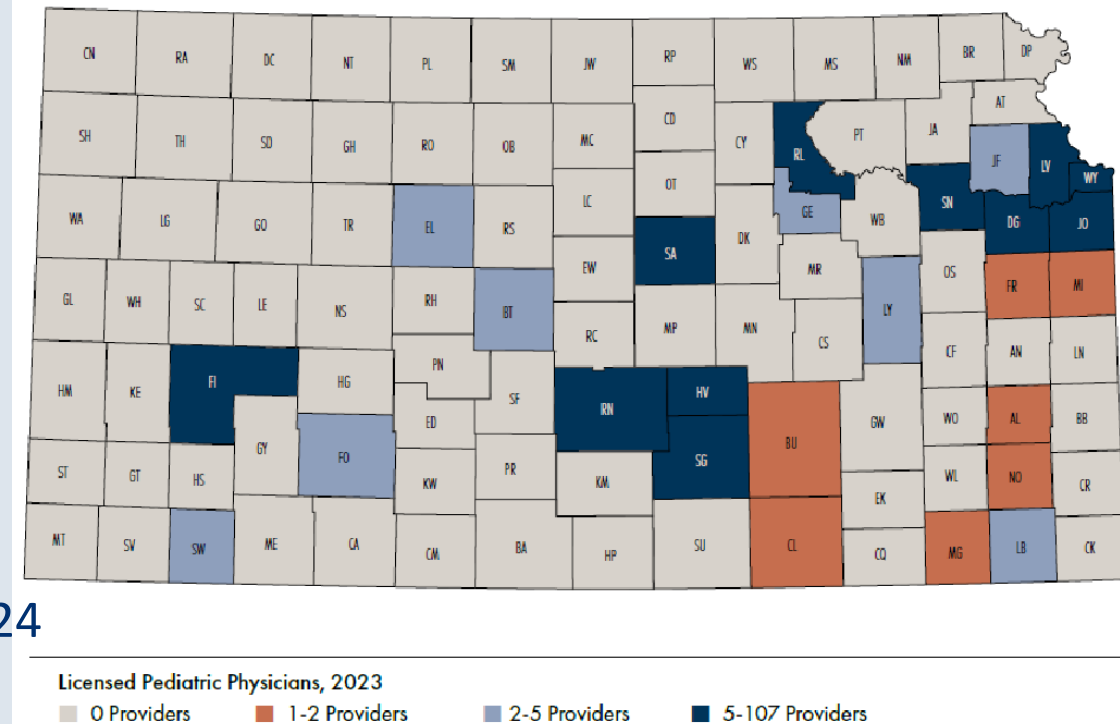
OB/GYNs by County, 2023



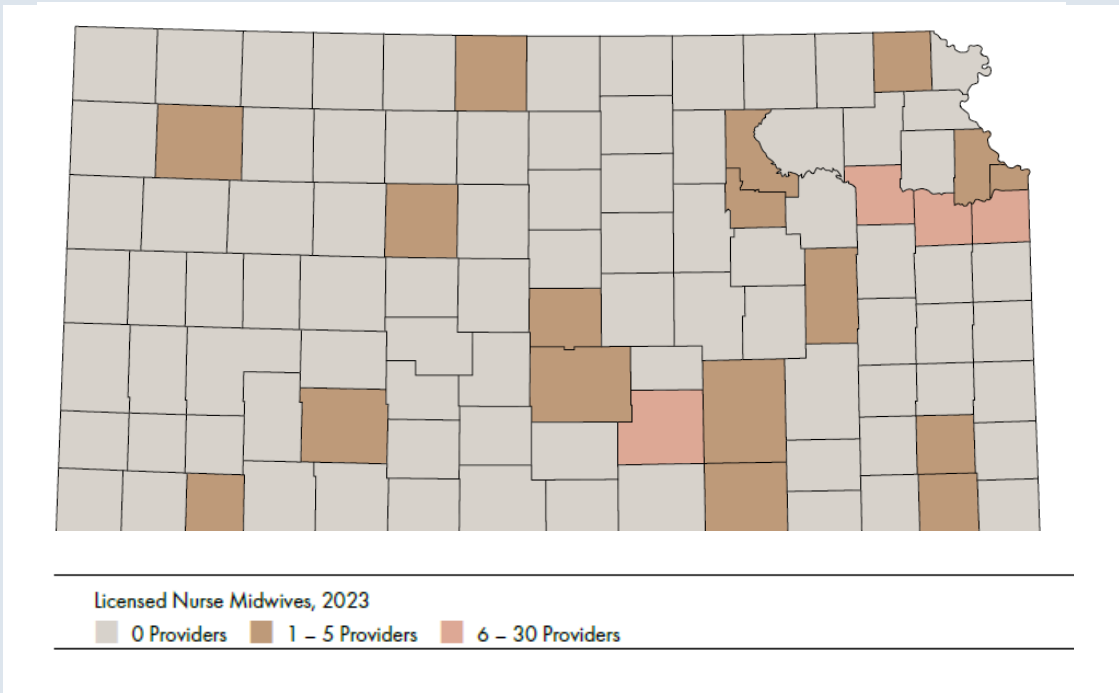
- 61.4% of counties do not have an OB/GYN
- There are only 330 licensed pediatricians in Kansas
- Only 92% of pediatric residency slots were filled in 2024

Maternity Care Specialists

Pediatricians by County, 2023



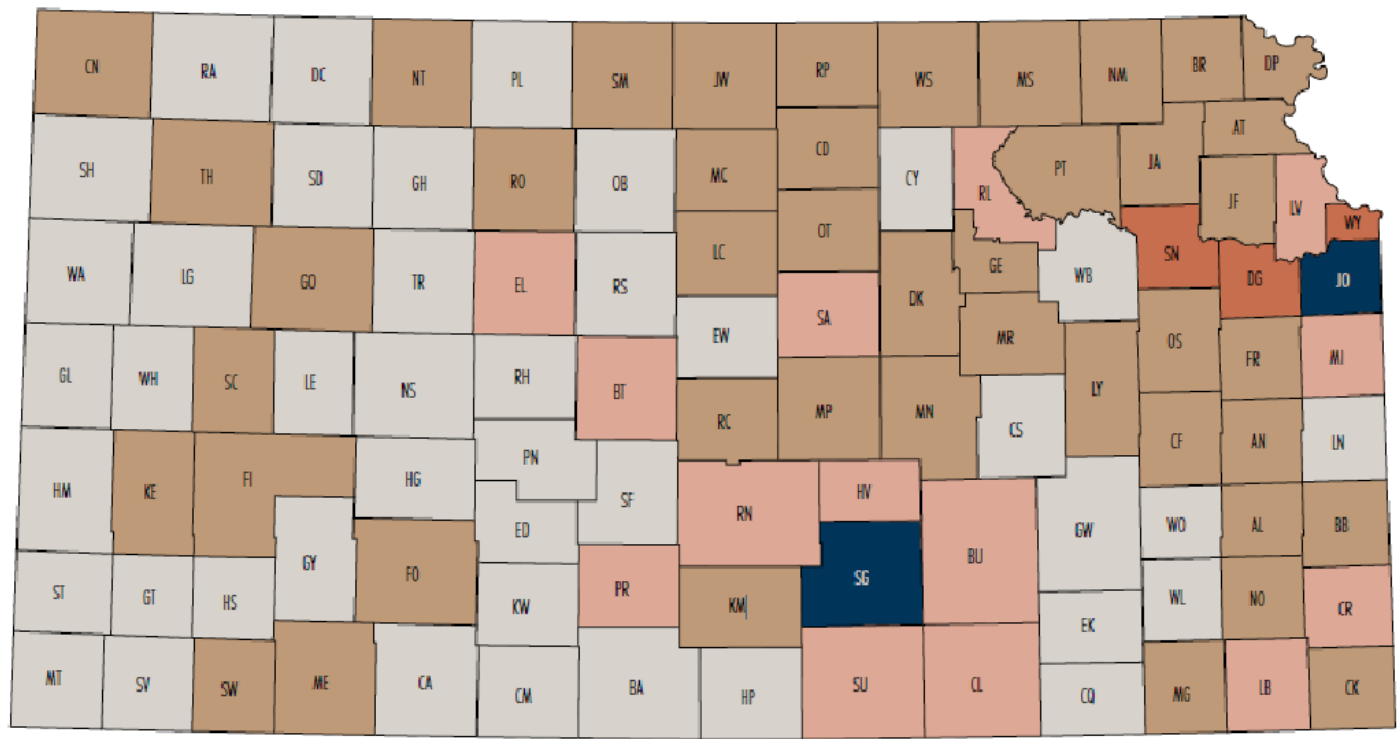
Certified Nurse Midwives by County, 2023



Certified Nurse Midwifery Coverage

- 81 Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs) in the state of Kansas.
- CNMs have full practice authority in the state of Kansas.
- There are growing numbers of certified professional midwives and non-certified, lay midwives practicing in Kansas. Professional and Lay midwives are not included in the numbers.

Anesthesiologists & CRNAs by County, 2023



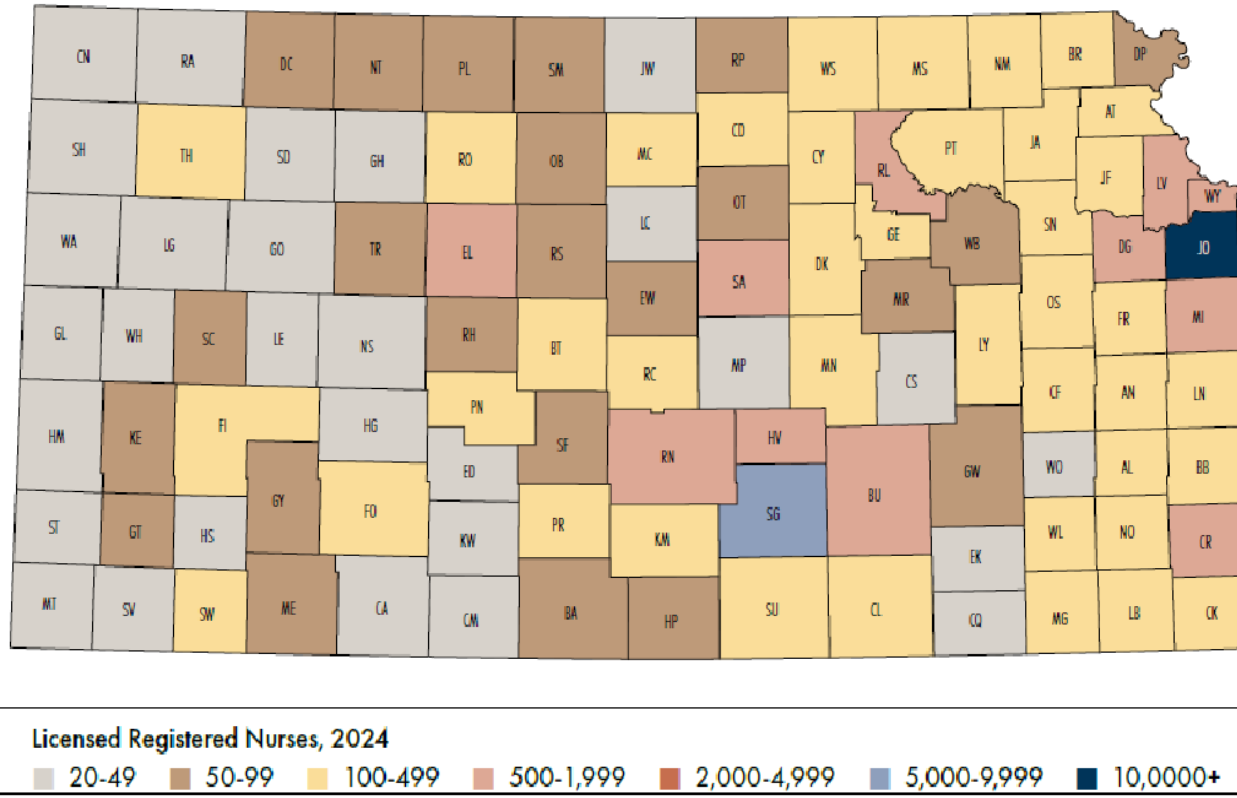
Licensed Anesthesiologists & CRNAs, 2023



40% of counties have no anesthesia coverage and must utilize contracted coverage

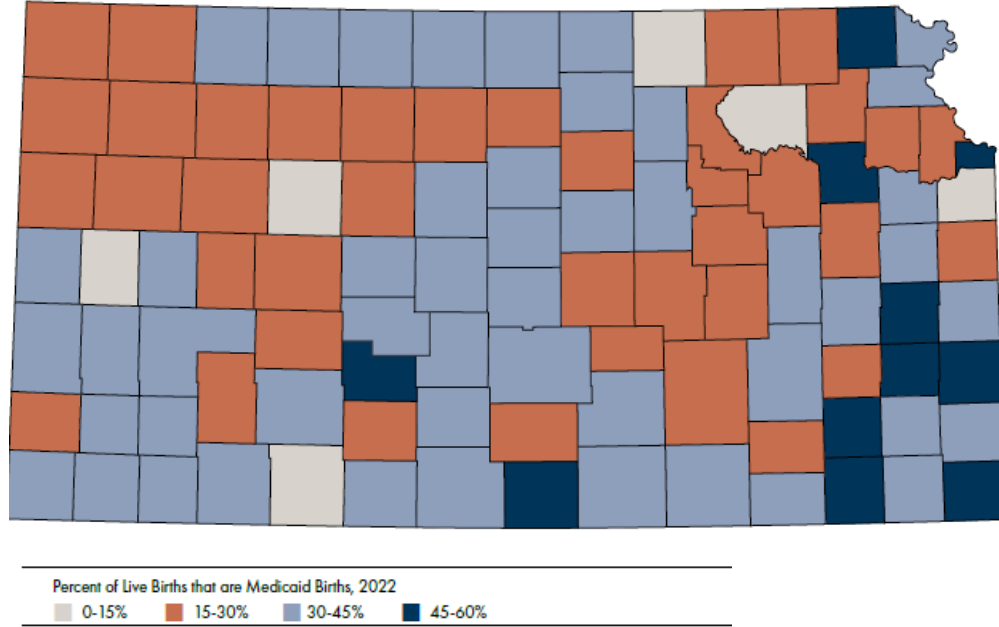


Registered Nurses by County, 2023



Registered Nursing Coverage

- Maternity care nursing is a specialized field that requires expertise in maternal-fetal assessment and care of the laboring and postpartum patient.
- RNs are likely to be the highest licensed member of the healthcare team on site 24/7/365 in rural facilities. Initial assessment and determination of care is likely made by the RN.



Medicaid Coverage

- In Kansas in 2022, 41% of mothers had Medicaid coverage at birth.
- In KS, the Medicaid reimbursement rate for surgical or non-surgical delivery is approximately 70%.
- Vaginal birth after cesarean delivery is 61%



Challenges

- Maternity care requires a specially trained interdisciplinary team of providers and nurses. Meeting the need requires costly contracts for anesthesia, nursing, respiratory therapy, radiology/sonography, and transport.
- Close to 30% of Zip codes in Kansas are more than 100 miles away from high-risk services.
- All levels of the system of care reflect significant stress
 - Most KS counties have ≤ 5 Family physicians.
 - Providing full OB services requires at least two physicians on call 24/7
- Ensuring the right maternal level of care is available at the right time requires significant planning and expertise.
 - 61.4% of KS counties does do not have an OB/GYN

Challenges

- Rural Critical Access Hospitals are heavily dependent on cost-based Medicare-reimbursement models
- Rural hospitals offering obstetrical services are challenged with maintaining costly contracted services that are not covered with this model.
- Maximizing maternal health workforce
- Maximizing teleradiology with a regionalized plan for care/services



Policy Considerations

- Promote collaborative health networks that enable coordinated regional systems for maternity care
 - Culturally relevant care
 - Transportation needs
 - Accommodations for those needing early and long-term care at regional & tertiary care facilities
- New reimbursement models for maternity care
 - 86% of KS hospitals experienced a loss of services in 2023
 - 63% are at risk of closing
 - 32% are a risk of immediate closure
 - Free-standing birthing centers are struggling due to low reimbursement from Medicaid and private insurers
- Need to utilize in-state teleradiology services linked to a plan for increasing levels of care.



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