



“This is a transformational project for our state, bringing a new, high-profile corporate partner and as many as 2,000 good-paying jobs. This was a true collaboration to generate an economic development success story that will deliver benefits in Wyandotte County and beyond in our state.”

— Gov. Laura Kelly, August 5, 2020, announcing Urban Outfitters’ selection of Wyandotte County as the location for its 880,000-square-foot omni-channel distribution center, which will create up to 2,000 new jobs.

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Kansas

Pop. (2020): 2,960,432

Median household income (2020): \$57,598

Credit Rating: AA-/Stable

Pop. growth 2020–2025: 0.28%

Median age (2020): 37

Right-to-work state: Yes

Legislative Update

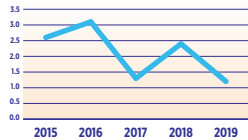
In a Special Session, the Legislature passed HB2016, a bill that includes items related to emergency orders and the oversight of CARES Act funding. The bill provides some immunity from liability related to COVID-19 for healthcare providers and business.

- **Business Liability.** The bill states that a person conducting business in Kansas shall be immune from liability in a civil action for a COVID-19 claim if such person was acting pursuant to and in substantial compliance with public health directives. This section will expire on January 26, 2021 and is retroactive to March 12, 2020.
- **Product Liability.** The bill states that a person who designs, manufactures, labels, sells, distributes, provides, or donates a qualified product in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency shall be immune from liability in a civil action alleging a product liability claim involving the product and the damages are not occasioned by willful, wanton, or reckless disregard of a known, substantial, and unnecessary risk that the product would cause serious injury to others. The bill is retroactive to March 12, 2020.

GDP

33rd

GDP Growth Rate Trend



2019 GDP
(in millions of current US\$)
\$176,493



35th

Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2020–2021: 0



31st

Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure in \$000s: 540,529



21st

Number of NCRCs: 57,906 | Percent Improvement 2019–2020: 18.29%



6th

2020 Workers’ Comp Index Rate: 1.15



27th

Industrial power cost per kWh: \$7.17



30th

Total Revenue as Share of Total Expenses, FY 2004-2019: 102.3%

Pandemic Response & Recovery



Kansas capitol building in Topeka, Kansas

Photo: Getty Images

On July 30th, the State Finance Council (SFC) unanimously approved the public health, education and economic development proposals recommended by the Executive Committee of the Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) Taskforce for a total of \$254,444,911. Executive Committee Chair Lyle Butler presented the round 2 proposals, which were crafted by the SPARK Taskforce with help from state agency working groups for the following amounts: \$100,909,138 for Public Health, \$78,600,000 for Economic Development, \$74,935,773 for Education, and \$60,000,000 for Connectivity.

This is the second major allocation of the \$1,034,052,049 the State received through the Coronavirus Relief Fund. Previously, \$400 million was allocated to Kansas counties.



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