The Value of Kansas Cities

By the Numbers:

- <2%* Cities comprise less than 2% of the land area in Kansas.
- 84%* 84% of the Kansas population live in cities.
- 57%* 57% of cities have a population of 500 or less.
- 90%* 90% of sales taxes are generated in Kansas cities.

Cities are growing at a faster rate than the state's overall population:

- Population Growth in Cities: 3.9% Between 2010-2020
- Population Growth in the State: 2.9% Between 2010-2020

Cities Provide Services Such As:

- Public Safety
- Safe Streets & Sidewalks
- Utilities & Clean Water
- Parks & Recreation
- Libraries & Community Buildings

84% of workers age 16 and over live in a city.

Cities are home to:

- 83% of the residential property in Kansas
- 87% of commercial and residential property in Kansas
- 89% of not-for-profit property in Kansas

*Source: 2020 Decennial Census, U.S. Census Bureau
Cities are where Kansas' cultural, higher education, and health care facilities are located:

- All 324 Public Libraries
- All 32 Kansas Board of Regents' Universities & Colleges
- All 123 Hospitals

**MUNICIPAL REVENUES**

- Property Tax, 41%
- Sales Tax, 22%
- Utility & Franchise, 19%
- Interest & investments, 1%
- Municipal Court, 3%

*Other could include: grants, special assessments, alcohol taxes, special highway taxes, building rentals, or licenses/permits

**MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES**

- Public Safety, 36%
- Public Works, 17%
- Parks & Recreation, 10%
- *Other, 15%
- Administration, 22%

*Other could include: community buildings, transfers, capital improvement funds, equipment funds, airport operations, neighborhood revitalization, zoo's, cemeteries or economic development

**CLASS OF CITY**

- Cities of the First Class: 26
- Cities of the Second Class: 503
- Cities of the Third Class: 96

**NUMBER OF CITIES**

**PERCENT OF TOTAL CITY POPULATION**

- Mayor/Council, 555 (69.47%)
- Commission/Manager, 37 (19.87%)
- Mayor/Council/Manager, 19 (10.66%)
- Commission, 10 (0.66%)
- Modified Mayor/Council, 2
- Unified Governments, 2

*Other could include: community buildings, transfers, capital improvement funds, equipment funds, airport operations, neighborhood revitalization, zoo's, cemeteries or economic development

**Sources:**

Kansas Department of Administration, 2020 Budget Estimates
Kansas Statistical Abstract, Institute for Policy & Social Research, The University of Kansas, 2021

Note: Percentages are calculated on an average of nearly 50 cities comprised of Cities of the First, Second, and Third Classes. Some smaller cities include all municipal departments and building maintenance under General Government and have been included in Administration for the purposes of this analysis.