16.9% of adults in Kansas have low literacy
Kansas ranks 19 out of 50 in the U.S.

1 in 9 counties in Kansas have populations where 25% or more of the residents have below basic literacy

How does low literacy affect equity and quality of life?
In counties where at least a quarter of the population have below basic literacy, we see that many health, economic, and educational outcomes fall short.

- **Unemployment**
  - 4.5% low literacy counties
  - 3.9% other counties
  - 4.4% state

- **Median Income**
  - $53,072
  - $50,216
  - $57,422

- **Adults Without a High School Degree**
  - 25.7%
  - 9.1%
  - 9.3%

- **No Access to Healthcare**
  - 15.8%
  - 8.8%
  - 9.0%

- **Residents Below the Poverty Line**
  - 13.3%
  - 11.6%
  - 11.3%

Demographics
- **Households Where Limited English is Spoken**
  - The percentage of households where no adult speaks English "very well."

The percent of 4th graders with below basic reading by race
- White: 28%
- Latinx/Hispanic: 45%
- Black/African American: 54%
- Asian: 24%

State Average: 34%
Below basic literacy is defined as scoring level 1 or below on the PIAAC International Adult Literacy Survey. 4th grade reading scores come from the NAEP reading assessment. 4th grade ELA test performance data comes from edopportunity.org. Self-Reported health comes from the Community Health Status Indicators. All other data comes from the American Community Survey. PIAAC data is not available by city. Visit map.barbarabush.org for county-level PIAAC data.