



2025 METHODOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

The 2025 Kansas Young Adult Survey (KYAS) has been conducted on behalf of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, Behavioral Health Commission starting in 2017. Data collection was completed by researchers at the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling (ECPIP), who conducted a fifth wave of the KYAS between November 21, 2024, and December 13, 2025. Young adults between the ages of 18 to 25 with cell numbers were recruited by text to an online survey. Recruitment by cell provided 90.8 percent coverage of the target population as estimated by the [National Center for Health Statistics](#) of household telephone status for Kansas adults aged 18 and over in 2019 (estimate includes wireless-only/wireless mostly/dual-use households). This estimate increased by 8 points as compared to the 2016 estimate, which minimizes coverage error. Participants were also screened to include only those adults who resided in the state of Kansas.

INSTRUMENT

The instrument was developed jointly by the Learning Tree Institute at Greenbush (LTI), the Kansas Prevention Collaborative, the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, Behavioral Health Services Commission, (SP020799-0), the Principal Investigator for the SAMSHA-funded grant projects, and ECPIP researchers, who received Institutional Review Board approval on November 21, 2022, from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Approval to field the study at Rutgers was obtained under the direction of Principal Investigator Dr. Debra Borie Holtz and Co-Principal Investigator Dr. Ashley Koning. The instrument was fielded in English only. Participants were recruited by manually texting a message to their cell phone. Subjects were given the option to opt out of the text message in compliance with the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA). Subjects who clicked the link were directed to a landing page that incorporated the logo of the Kansas Prevention Collaborative (without the title) and ECPIP at Rutgers University. ECPIP used an approved third-party vendor software system to send text messages. The landing page notification provided online consent to participate in the study. If subjects were eligible to participate based on criteria determined by LTI (age and county), participants were asked to consent prior to being directed to the web survey. The consent form is attached in Appendix A. If subjects did not consent, they did not advance, and they were offered another opportunity to opt-out. Among those eligible, subjects were informed of a thank-you incentive (\$5 or \$10 Amazon or Walmart gift card, which was wave dependent) to be processed after they submitted the survey. All eligible participants (Kansas residents between the ages of 18 to 25 years of age) were directed to a separate link to claim their gift card at the conclusion of the survey.

SAMPLE FRAME

The Kansas Young Adults Survey was designed to recruit subjects between the ages of 18 to 25. All adults aged 18 to 25 living in Kansas were viewed as eligible to participate in the survey, even if the sample parameters were unknown among cell phone users. To validate eligibility, two screener questions were asked including current state of residence and age. Only eligible subjects were directed to the online survey. ECPIP used a listed cell phone sample to recruit respondents. Weighting was used to help ensure respondents were representative of the population.

FIELD PROCESS

Text Invitation

A text invitation was manually sent to N=176,456 subjects believed to be between the ages of 18 to 25 living in Kansas, nearly double that of previous years. The samples were hit as many as three times during the fielding process due to lower-than-expected response rates. The first wave of text messages tested \$5 vs \$10 incentive level, with the \$10 incentive showing no advantage over the \$5 incentive (n=10,000 sample for reach level). The invitation included the name of the Sponsor and described the thank-you incentive. An opt-out link was included. The total number of eligible respondents who completed the survey was N=674.

Consent

Online consent was provided on the landing page and again in the web survey among those subjects who were determined to be eligible to participate. Ineligible subjects were directed to a message advising them of their ineligibility.

Listed Samples

Subjects were randomly recruited from two listed samples among subjects believed to cover the adult target parameters based on residence and age. As mentioned before, the samples were hit as many as three times due to both low response rate as well as targeted demographics based on responses received in the survey. Utilizing APPOR Standard Definition and Rate Calculator, the following rates were calculated for the study and are displayed in Table 1 (Citation: The American Association for Public Opinion Research. 2016. Survey Outcome Rate Calculator 4.0).

Table 1: Response, Cooperation, Refusal & Contact Rates

Rates	Listed Sample Frame
Response Rate (RR3) *	0.004
Cooperation Rate (COOP3) **	0.777
Refusal Rate (RefR2) ***	0.001
Contact Rate (CR1) ****	0.005

- * Response Rate 3 (RR3) includes an estimate of what proportion of cases of unknown eligibility are actually eligible.
- ** Cooperation Rate 3 (COOP3) defines those unable to do an interview as also incapable of cooperating.
- *** Refusal Rate 2 (RefR2) includes estimated eligible cases among the unknown cases similar to Response Rates 3 and 4.
- **** Contact Rate 1 (CR1) assumes that all cases of indeterminate eligibility are actually eligible.

WEIGHTING & SAMPLING ERROR

The data were weighted to be representative of Kansas adults ages 18 to 25. The sample was balanced to match the target population on parameters for sex, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region, and registered voter status. Population parameters for sex, age, education, race, and Hispanic origin were derived from 2024 American Community Survey data. The region benchmark was derived from Census Bureau estimates of the resident population from ACS 2017-2021 five-year average. The registered voter benchmark came from an analysis of the Current Population Survey 2024 Voting and Registration Supplement data.

Weighting was accomplished using SPSSINC RAKE, an SPSS extension module that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables using the GENLOG procedure. Weights were trimmed to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target population.

Post-data collection statistical adjustments require analysis procedures that reflect departures from simple random sampling. The effects of these design features are estimated by computing a "design effect" which represents the loss in statistical efficiency that results from a disproportionate sample design and/or systematic non-response. The composite design effect for a sample of size n , with each case having a weight, w can be estimated as: ¹

$$deff = \frac{n \sum w^2}{(\sum w)^2}$$

The design effect for this sample is 1.51.² The survey's margin of error is the largest 95% confidence interval for any estimated proportion based on the total sample—one around 50%. For example, the margin of error for the total sample is ± 4.6 percentage points. This means that in 95 out of every 100 samples using the same methodology, estimated proportions based on the entire sample will be no more than 4.6 percentage points away from their true values in the population. It is important to remember that sampling fluctuations are only one possible source of error in a survey estimate. Other sources, such as measurement error, may contribute to additional error or lesser magnitude.

¹ Kish, L. (1992). Weighting for Unequal Pi. *Journal of Official Statistics*, Vol. 8, No.2, 1992, pp. 183-200.

² The design effect and margin of error reflect the 5% trimmed weight with no final RV adjustment.

APPENDIX A: LANDING PAGE/CONSENT FORM

CONSENT TO TAKE PART IN A RESEARCH STUDY: LANDING PAGE FOR ONLINE ACCESS (CONSENT)



2025 Kansas Survey of Young Adults

On behalf of the Kansas Prevention Collaborative, thank you for your help on an important study surveying young adults about public health issues, including the effectiveness of programs among those between the ages of 18 to 25. Your participation was incredibly important. Our survey is now closed, as we have received a strong response to this invitation to participate.

Your answers remain confidential. Confidential means that the research records will include some information about you, and this information will be stored in such a manner that some linkage between your identity and the response in the research exists. All data will be stored on independent secured sites with access limited to members of the research team. After information that could identify you has been removed, de-identified information collected for this research may be used by or distributed to investigators for other research without obtaining additional permission from you.

To help us protect your privacy, we have obtained a Certificate of Confidentiality from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. We can use this Certificate as researchers to legally refuse to disclose information that may identify you in any federal, state, or local civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceedings, for example, if there is a court subpoena. We will also use the Certificate to resist any demands for information that would identify you, except for voluntary disclosure of information by yourself or any disclosure that you have provided written consent in writing.

On behalf of the Kansas Prevention Collaborative, we would like to share with you again an important confidential resource available to all Kansans.

SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE

Text or call 988

988LIFELINE.ORG/CHAT/

Chat anytime, day or night. Talking is free and confidential.

If you or someone you know are depressed, going through a hard time, need to talk, or are thinking about suicide, talk with a caring adult. A counselor will listen and support you when you connect with the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

Text or call 988. Or, chat at suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat

As a thank you for completing our survey, we will send you a (\$5 or \$10) Amazon or Walmart giftcard. If you were eligible to participate, your Gift card will be processed and sent to the email you provided. If you do not receive your gift card by this date, please contact us at poll@eagleton.rutgers.edu.



If you have any questions about this research project, you may contact Ashley Koning at Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling by email akoning@rutgers.edu or by phone. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, you can contact the Institutional Review Board at Rutgers (which is a committee that reviews research studies in order to protect research participants) at: Arts & Sciences Institutional Review Board, Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey. Liberty Plaza / Suite 3200, 335 George Street, 3rd Floor, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, 732-235-2866 human-subjects@ored.rutgers.edu

If you do not wish to take part in the research, close this website address. If you wish to take part in the research, follow the directions below. Please print out this consent form if you would like a copy of it for your files.

By beginning this research, I acknowledge that I am 18 years of age or older and have read and understand the information. I agree to take part in the research, with the knowledge that I am free to withdraw my participation in the research without penalty.

Click on "I AGREE" below to confirm your agreement to take part in the research and enter the survey.

[TAKE THE SURVEY HERE](#)

ELIGIBILITY SCREENER

Scroll down to see if you are eligible for a \$5 or \$10 gift card

Thank you for your interest in this research study!

As a thank you for completing our survey, we would like to offer you a (\$5 or \$10) Amazon or Walmart gift card. If you are eligible to participate, you will be directed to a link upon completion where you can enter your contact information. Your contact information will only be used to send you the gift card and will not be linked in any way to your survey responses.

To verify your eligibility, please answer the following two questions.

Screening Question 1: What state do you currently reside in? (Terminate if non-Kansas resident)

Screening Question 2: What is your age? Enter 2 digits for your age. (Terminate if <18 or >25)

Access Code

To confirm your eligibility, please enter the last 5 digits of the cell phone number that we used to send you this survey invitation.

