

Kansas Hospitals Keep Kansas Healthy and Economically Strong

(January 10, 2018) – Hospitals and health care systems are a powerful economic force in Kansas. The state’s health care sector generated \$14.4 billion in income and \$25.7 billion in sales last year, ranking it fifth among all economic sectors in the state. Hospitals alone have a total impact on Kansas income of \$9.4 billion, and they employ 86,324 people across the state. New data confirms the health care sector is among the fastest growing in the economy. National employment in health

care services increased by 92 percent from 1990 to 2015, and by almost 400 percent since 1970. These are just a few of the findings in the January 2018 report, The Importance of the Health Care Sector to the Kansas Economy, which details estimates of the “gross” impact of the health care sector on economic activity in the State of Kansas. In the report, K-State researchers identify three primary ways health care influences local economic development: health care attracts and

retains business, attracts and retains retirees and creates local jobs. Jobs are an essential part of the economic impact; however, funds also flow to businesses and throughout the economy as hospitals purchase goods and services. Hospitals generate nearly \$3.2 billion in local retail sales in Kansas each year. Additionally, the hospital sector generates nearly \$205 million in state sales tax. These are critical funds that the state uses for important programs such as education and transportation. “Hospitals and health services truly are an economic anchor in our state,” said Tom Bell, president and CEO of the Kansas Hospital Association. “This report documents the importance of the health care sector to the Kansas economy. While the estimates of economic impact are substantial, they are only a partial accounting of the benefits that health care in general, and community hospitals in particular, provide to the

state. Kansas community hospitals help stabilize the population base, invigorate their communities and contribute significantly to quality of life.” According to the 2018 economic report, Kansas hospitals employ 4.4 percent of all job holders in the state. The report calculated economic multipliers, or “ripple effects,” and estimated that hospitals account for 75,659 additional jobs throughout all other businesses and industries in the state. In other words, for each new job in the hospital sector, another 0.88 jobs were created in other businesses and industries in Kansas. The hospital sector employment had a total impact on state employment of approximately 162,000 jobs. Furthermore, the entire health sector in Kansas employs about 222,500 people, or 11.3 percent of all job holders in the state. This puts Kansas ahead of the national average, which is 10 percent of job holders in the United

States working in health care services. The total employment impact of the health services sector in Kansas is approximately 369,210 jobs, making it the fourth largest aggregate employer in the state. The study also found Kansas hospitals generate more than \$6 billion in direct labor income to the Kansas economy each year. For every dollar of income generated in the hospital sector, another \$0.56 was generated in other

business and industry. The full statewide report and links to county reports can be found on the KHA website. The Kansas Hospital Association is a voluntary, non-profit organization existing to be the leading advocate and resource for members. KHA membership includes 215 member facilities, of which 124 are full-service, community hospitals. Founded in 1910, KHA’s vision is: “Optimal Health for Kansas.”

Did you know?

Keeping newborn babies safe is a priority for mothers, fathers and other caregivers. Various ailments can afflict newborns, and one many new parents may be unfamiliar with is respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV. According to Hackensack Meridian Health, RSV is the leading cause of hospitalization of babies younger than one year of age in the United States. RSV produces symptoms similar to the common cold or the flu and can include runny nose, cough and trouble breathing. In severe cases, particularly in infants, a baby may need to be hospitalized if his or her breathing is greatly compromised. Examples of severe infections include bronchiolitis (an inflammation of the small airways in the lung) and pneumonia. RSV also can affect adults, but healthy adults are usually only affected by mild symptoms, says the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In such instances, recovery can take between one and two weeks. Researchers are looking into immunizing pregnant women against RSV as a way to help protect babies from the virus.

Did you know?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notes that there is no practical way to eliminate all mold and mold spores in an indoor environment, including a home. But by controlling moisture in their homes or apartments, men and women can control indoor mold growth. One way to do just that is to prevent condensation in a home by adding insulation. In addition, clean building materials or furnishings that become wet as promptly as possible, and no more than 48 hours after the items have become wet. Mold produces allergens and irritants, and inhaling or touching mold or mold spores can trigger allergic responses such as sneezing, runny nose, red eyes, rashes on the skin, and even fever-like symptoms.

ST. ROSE

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antibiotics are not effective against an influenza viral infection, which is another reason to be tested. “An early diagnosis can reduce the inappropriate use of antibiotics,” she explained. Those who have not been vaccinated against the flu should consider doing so now. “There is still time to get a flu shot,” Stinemetz said. “We cannot stress enough how important the vaccination can be.” St. Rose Health Center specializes in primary care, prevention and wellness. Services include St. Rose Family Medicine, Convenient Care Walk-in Clinic, Great Bend Internists, Imaging, Cardiac Rehab, Physical Therapy, Golden Belt Home Health & Hospice and a comprehensive Specialty Clinic. Hays Medical Center, which is part of The University of Kansas Health System, is the sole owner of St. Rose.

PROGRESSIVE

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In this respect, the task of optimizing and restoring movement—the mission of physical therapists across the country—is about more than personal health. It’s about transforming lives, empowering communities and, yes, changing the world. One life at a time.



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