

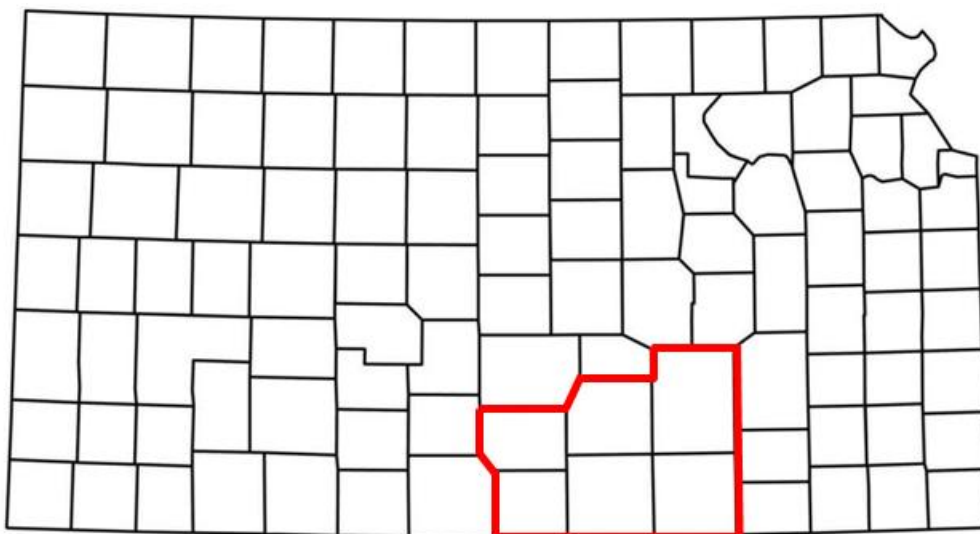


Youth Employment Project (YEP)

The Youth Employment Project's goal is to help young adults in the community gain their first job or work experience. As a Strategic Initiative led by the Workforce Alliance (WA) since 2009, YEP focuses on providing essential services like resume creation, job search assistance, and interview preparation. The program also equips participants with crucial skills in customer service, financial literacy, and other soft skills to ensure their long-term success.

In 2025, YEP continued its collaboration with Helping Youth Prepare for Employment (HYPE). This powerful partnership with the City of Wichita, the Greater Wichita YMCA, and Wichita Public Schools allows the organizations to leverage resources and align services for more significant community impact. By combining efforts, the HYPE partners create a wide range of opportunities and measure shared outcomes to report on the total impact for the youth in the community.

YEP Coverage Area



Highlights from PY 2025

- Served over 5,274 young adults
- 2,196 young adults gained employment
- Including 575 placed in high school internships
- Over \$3.1 million estimated wages earned by young adults
- Engagement with 244 employers
- Held 11 Camp HYPE's throughout June, July and August

Internship Highlights

“During my internship at Cox Machine, I supported the HR department by editing training plans, translating materials into Vietnamese, assisting with onboarding, and making job offer calls. I also attended orientation meetings to better understand company culture and operations. This experience strengthened my communication and organizational skills, and sparked my interest in business and HR.”

-Student

“Aniyah quickly established strong relationships with the camp kids, earning their trust and respect in a short time. Her connection with the children was genuine, and her impact was clearly visible. In addition to her work with the campers, Aniyah was a valued member of the staff team. She also contributed to smooth operations by helping with check-ins and check-outs, and distributing important reminders to parents—always with professionalism and a friendly attitude. One of the head counselors even remarked that she wished Aniyah could have been present every day.”

- City of Wichita

2025 Outcomes

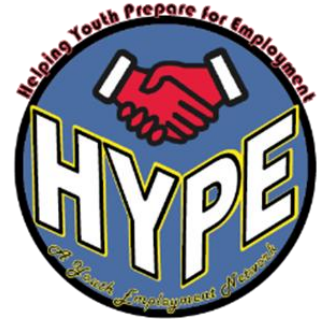
Measure	2025 Actual	2025 Goals	2024 Actual	2023 Actual
Total Young Adults Served	5,274	6,500	5,765	5,732
Total Employment	2,196	2,000	2,893	2,392
Wages Earned (estimated)	\$3,155,040	\$3,500,000	\$4,165,920	\$3,444,480
Internships (Paid and unpaid)	575	750		
Businesses Providing Internships	80	120		
Workshop Participation	764	1,000	740	858
Badges Awarded	2,292	2,000	1,542	1,545
ESC Certificates Earned	764	800	514	515
Camp HYPE Participation	163	200	146	164
Employer Engagement	244	450	430	435
Job Fairs	20	25	18	20
Job Fair Attendance by Young Adults	2,423	3,000	2,403	2,653
Job Fair Attendance by Employers	196	250	320	248
Events (Outreach, Job Fair, Workshop)	110	150	141	115
Schools and Districts Engagement	40 schools in 27 districts	30 schools 16 districts	31 schools 15 districts	27 schools 16 districts
Counties Engaged	6	6	7	6
WIOA Referrals	15	50	30	30

HYPE Outcomes

Employment Type	Total
WIOA Subsidized (WA)	38
YEP Subsidized (WA)	163
YEP Employer Funded (WA)	1,550
The Way to Work (City of Wichita)	175
Job Prep (YMCA)	170
Youth Self-Reported (WA)	100
Total	2,196

Camp HYPE

Camp HYPE is a week-long camp of career exploration that combines YEP workshops with tours to local employers by industry. In 2025, the Workforce Alliance added 3 additional camps: Public Safety for Wichita Children's Home, Financial Services and McConnell Air Force Base.



Below are outcomes from 2025:

- 163 student participants
- 470 miles traveled throughout the summer provided by Wichita Public Transit
- 11 camps were held from June 2 – August 7
- Wichita Public Schools provided eight externs to assist with structured “employment opportunities”
- Students who successfully completed a camp earned a \$200 stipend
- Students ranged between the ages of 14-18
- Students had access to laptops and every student was able to create a resume
- 50 students explored over 70 Transfr VR career simulations

Camp HYPE Employer Sponsors



Bombardier





Champion Community and Employer Partner Highlights



Transported Students 470 miles



8 counselors and CTE Teachers contributed over 500 hours to assist with Camp HYPE



11 Reality U Sessions delivered Financial Literacy to all Camp HYPE participants

In-Kind Donation from Pando and Reality U valuing \$22,500



Transfr Virtual Career Exploration

In 2025, YEP integrated Transfr Virtual Reality Career Exploration headsets in classroom experiences and at outreach events. Transfr is an innovative platform that provides students with immersive experiences to explore various career paths. Through virtual reality simulations, students can virtually step into different professions, gaining firsthand insights into daily tasks, responsibilities and the overall work environment.

Key features of Transfr VR Career Exploration include:

- Immersive experiences: Students can experience a wide range of careers, from healthcare to engineering, in a realistic virtual setting.
- Hands-on simulations: The platform offers interactive activities that allow students to practice skills and tasks related to specific professions.
- Career guidance: Transfr provides personalized career guidance and support to help students identify their interests and make informed career choices.



Top Explored Industry



Healthcare- Assist with a knee surgery



Architecture & Construction- Restore power to an entire town

All Industries Explored

Industry	Views
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	13
Architecture & Construction	114
Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications	9
Finance	2
Health Sciences	132
Hospitality & Tourism	12
Information Technology	8
Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security	27
Manufacturing	32
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics	31
Grand Total	380

Road Trip Nation

In 2025, YEP integrated comprehensive curriculum from Road Trip Nation, designed to inspire students to explore their passions and discover potential career paths. Through engaging video content, interactive activities, and personal reflection, students are guided on a journey of self-discovery.

Key components of the curriculum include:

- Self-reflection and goal setting: Students are encouraged to identify their interests, values, and aspirations.
- Career exploration: The curriculum introduces students to a diverse range of careers, providing insights into different industries and job roles.
- Interviewing skills: Students learn how to conduct effective interviews, gaining valuable communication and interpersonal skills.
- Storytelling and presentation: Students develop their storytelling abilities and learn to present their ideas confidently.

Paths Across Kansas

The Road Trip Nation documentary series "[Paths Across Kansas](#)" features a green RV as the backdrop for the journeys of local college students exploring career opportunities throughout Kansas.

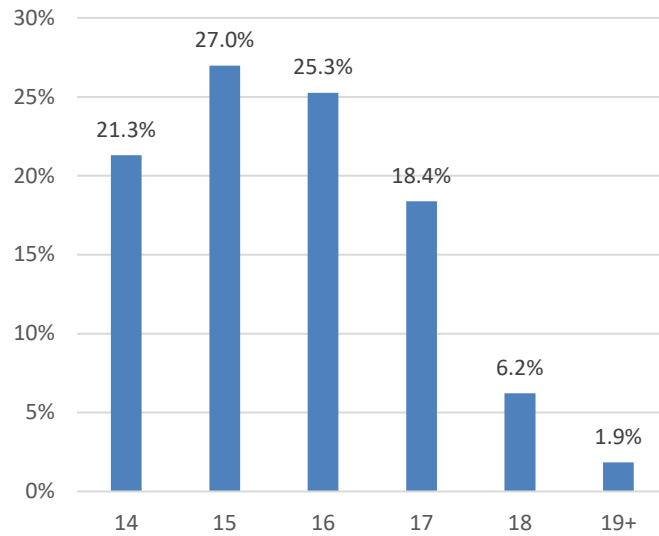
Throughout the year, the overall analytics and engagements with Road Trip Nation were:



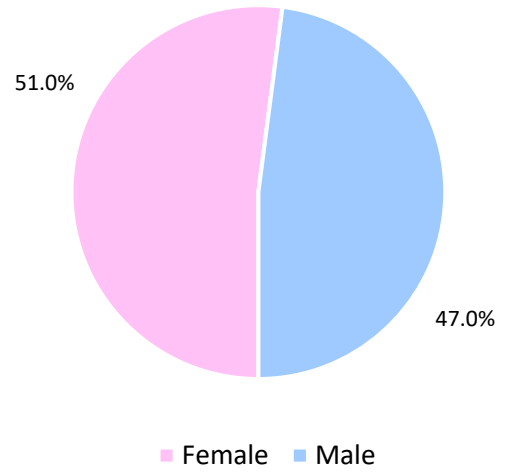
Metrics	Totals
Total Users	648
Sessions	1,208
Views	1,979
Engagement Rate	67%
Video Clicks	212
Resources Clicks	114

Demographics

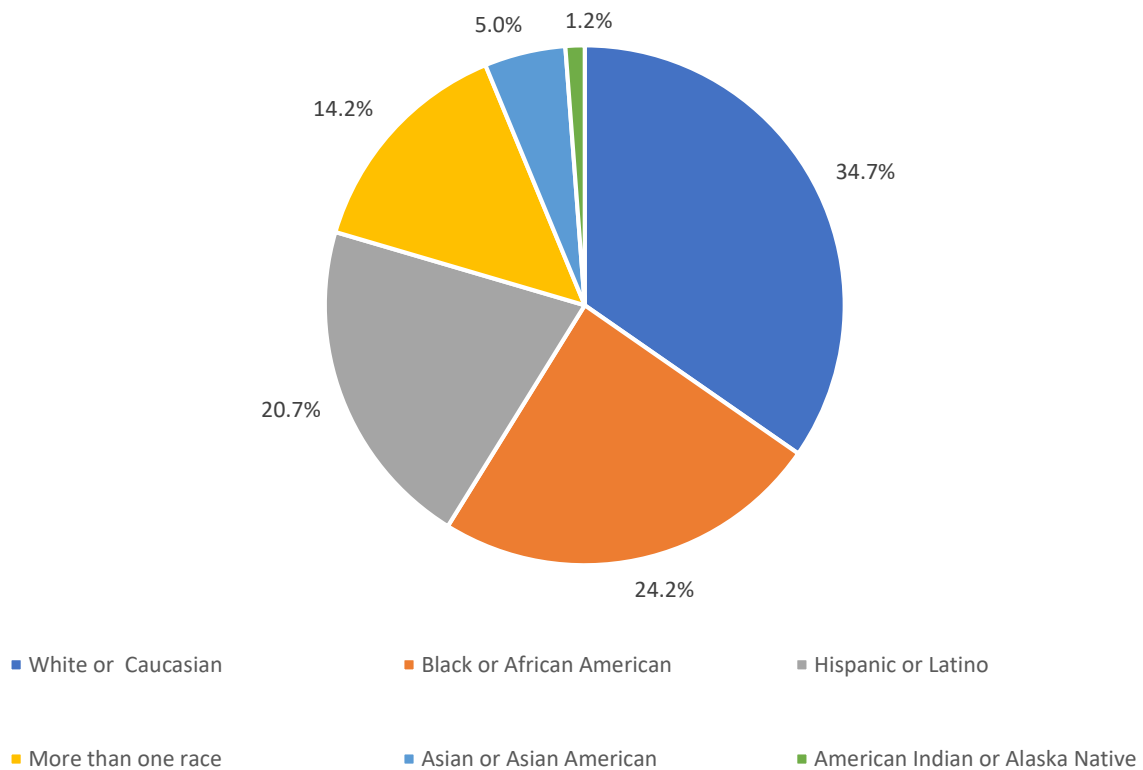
Age



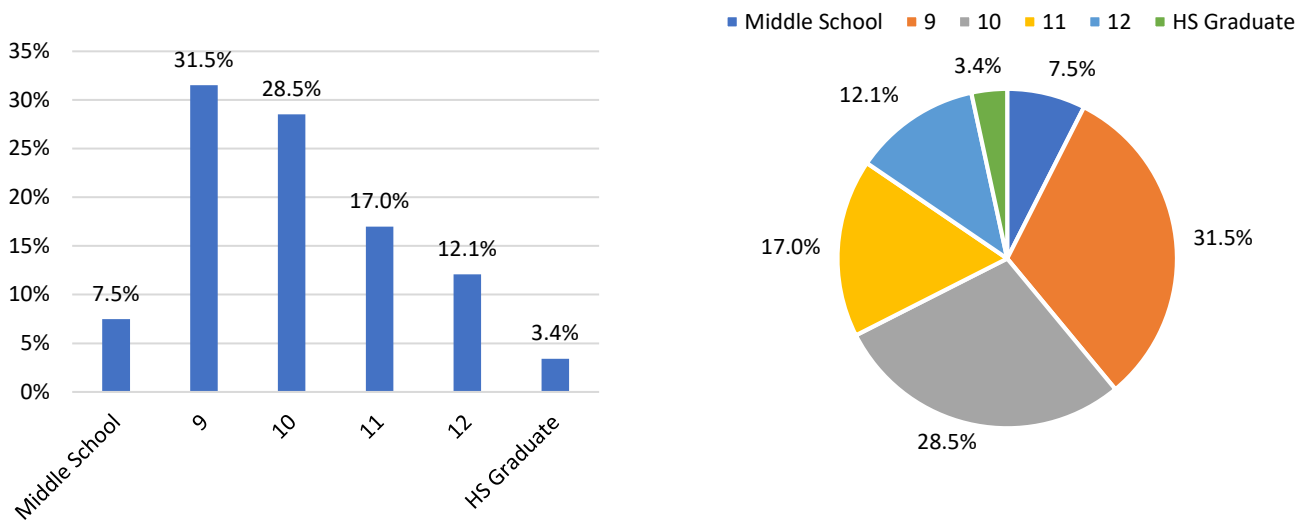
Gender



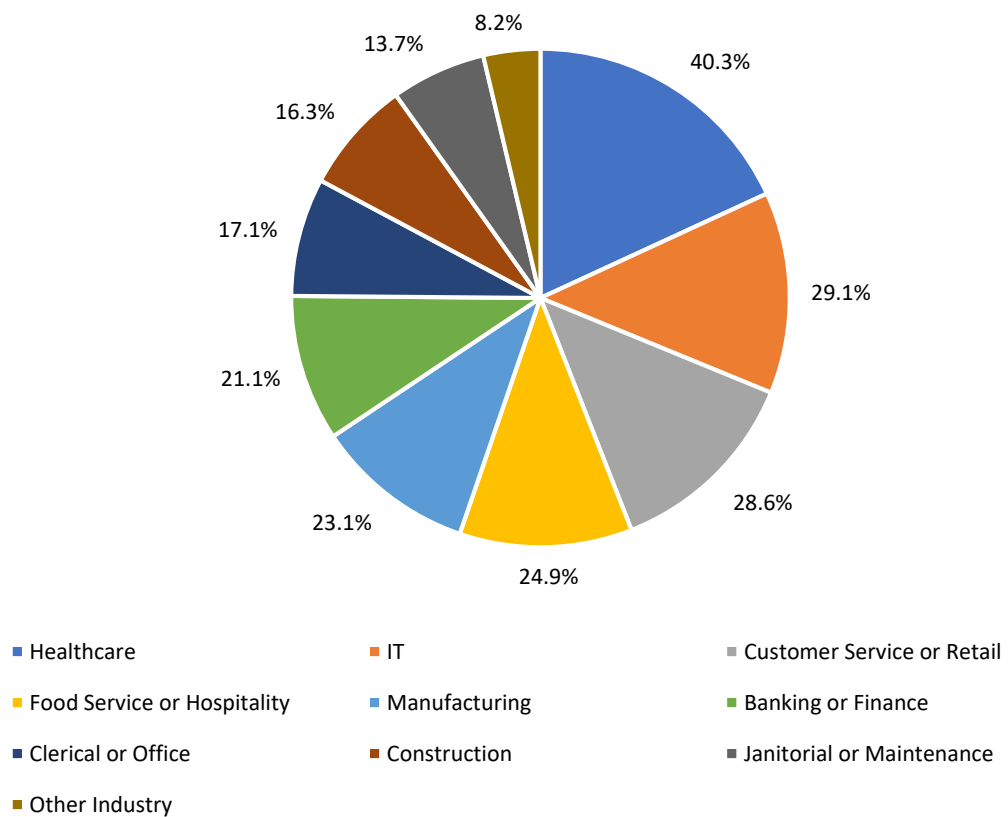
Race & Ethnicity



Grade Levels



Areas of Interest



Locations

Figure 1. Kansas View

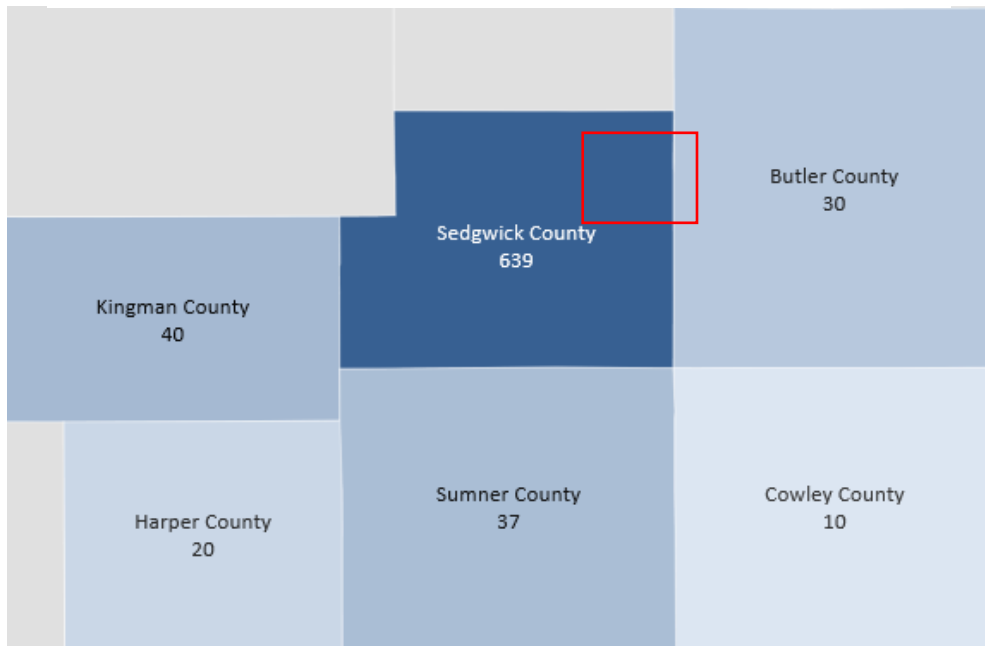
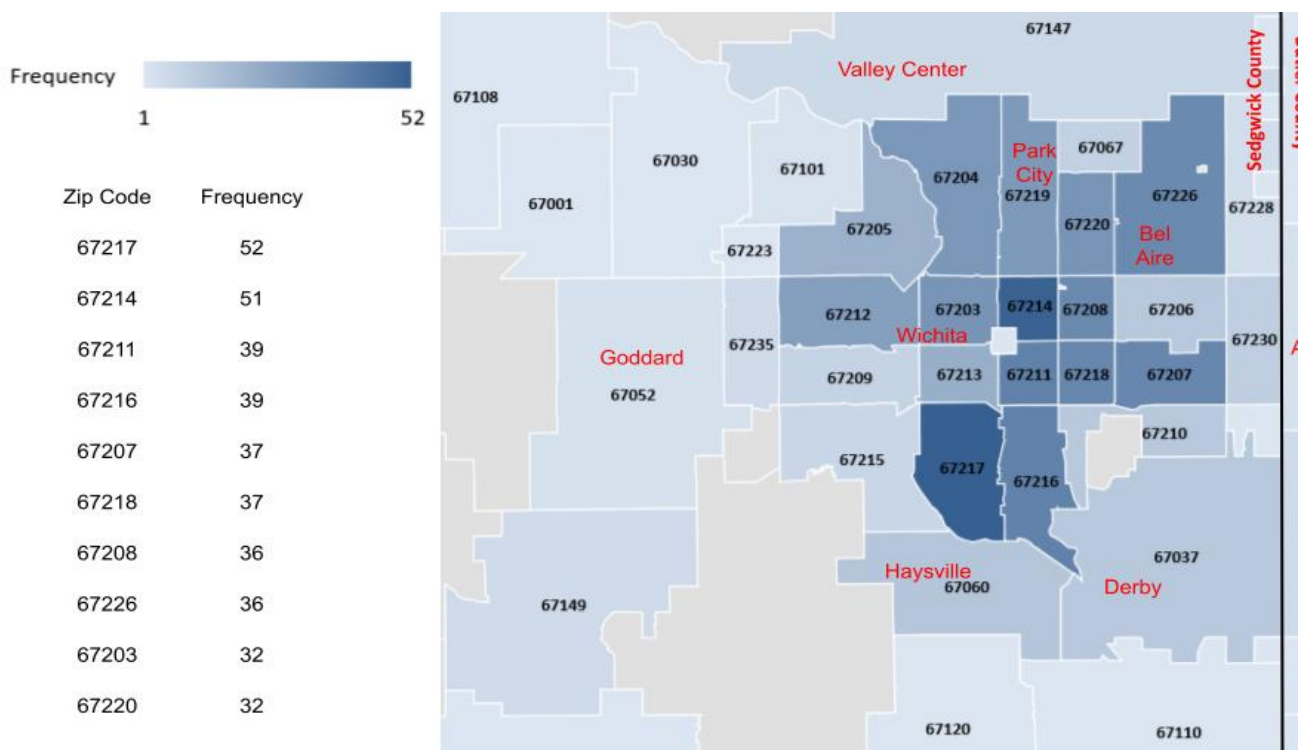


Figure 2. Wichita Metro View



Barriers to Entry

