

# THE IMPACTS OF KANSAS' LITERACY CRISIS

This crisis impacts far more than just education - it has profound health, economic, and social implications.

## EDUCATIONAL IMPACT

Without strong literacy skills, students struggle in all subjects, are **four times more likely to drop out**, and often face life-long challenges.



## ECONOMIC IMPACT

Low literacy contributes to higher unemployment, lower lifetime earnings, and a weaker workforce, **costing the U.S. economy trillions** of dollars each year.



## HEALTH IMPACT

People with low literacy are more likely to experience poor health outcomes and higher hospitalization rates, **contributing to \$106-238 billion in excess healthcare costs** each year.



## SOCIAL IMPACT

Limited literacy restricts employment, increases reliance on social services, and **raises the risk of involvement in the criminal justice system.**

