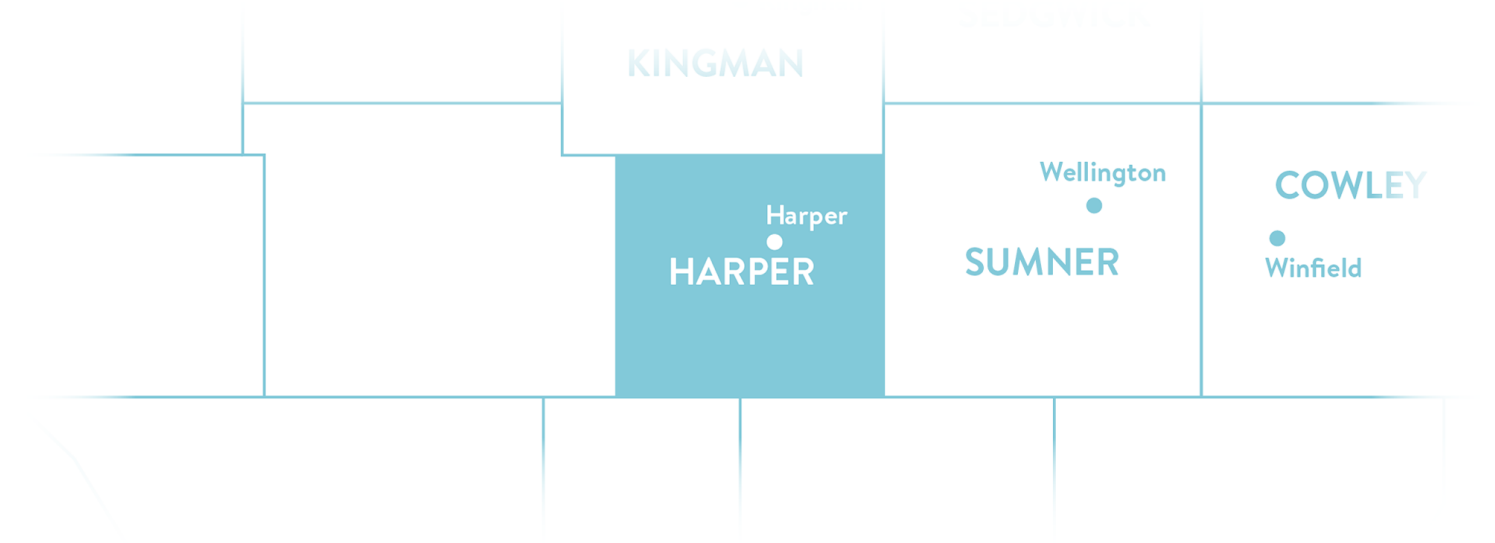


HARPER COUNTY

Located 45 minutes southwest of Wichita, Harper County is a vibrant community of about 5,600 people, living in safe and clean rural towns, with a surprisingly diverse local economy. The population includes an educated and productive workforce, with home-town values and a superior work ethic.



The County boasts a large and diversified manufacturing base of more than 20 firms, ranging in size from several employees to over 100.

Opened in 2019, the 62,500-square-foot Patterson Health Center is a model for innovative rural health care in Harper County. Employing more than 150 people, the facility features a 16-bed critical access hospital, emergency department, rural health clinic, rehabilitation services and advanced diagnostic capabilities. The health center also supports community wellness through facilities in Harper and Anthony. In 2026, Patterson Health Center was recognized as one of the nation's Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals for the fourth consecutive year.

Beyond its health care offerings, Harper County combines the charm of rural Kansas, with scenic country roads, wooded streams and abundant prairie wildlife, with convenient access to regional highways, Wichita Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport and higher education institutions throughout south-central Kansas.

County Data

Population	5,600


Greater Wichita Partnership
PRINTED WEBSITE REPORT



Land area	801
Average population density	7
Median age	40.6
High School Graduate or Higher	90.4%
Some College, No Degree	15.7%
Associate Degree	4%
Bachelor Degree or Higher	17.1%
Average 1-Way commute to work (min)	16.1
Civilian labor force	2,665
Unemployment rate	1.8%
Unemployment	100
Number of business establishments	212
Employees	2,310
Average annual pay	$37,206
Median household income	$49,455

Sources: 2019 Population Estimates for the 10-County Region; 2010 Census; American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2014-2018; Bureau of Labor Statistics - Local Area Unemployment Statistics; Bureau of Labor Statistics - Quarterly Census of Wages 2018 Average

Major Employers

- Harper Industries
- Elkhorn Valley Packing
- Cox Machine
- Patterson Health Center
- Prairie Belting
- Blanchat Manufacturing

Contact

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Related Links



Harper County Economic Development