



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

W. FRANK BARTON
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

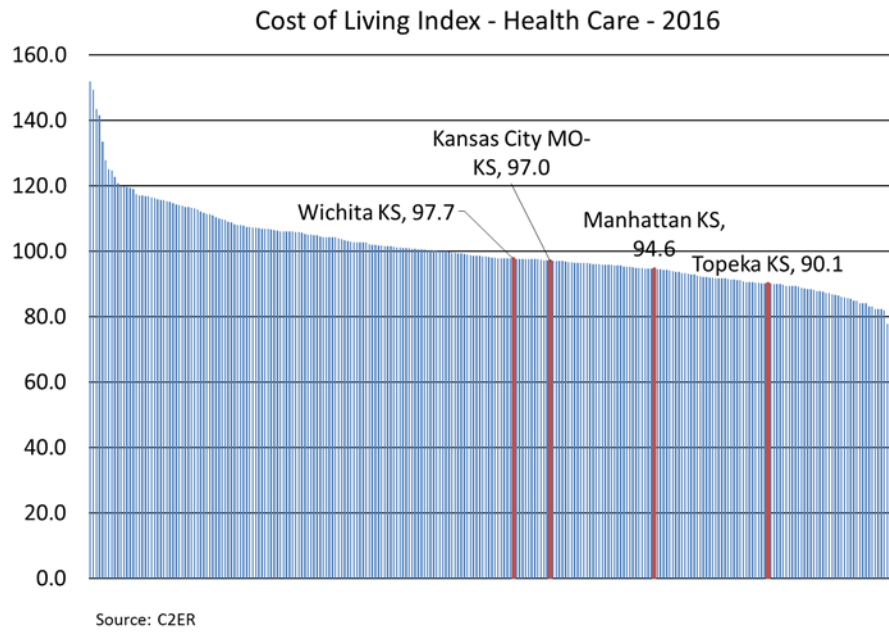
Center for Economic Development
and Business Research

Cost of Living Health Care Index

2016 Annual Average

The Cost of Living Index, from The Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER), measures regional differences in the cost of consumer goods and services, excluding taxes and non-consumer expenditures, for professional and managerial households in the top income quintile. This index includes more than 90,000 prices covering 60 different items collected each quarter. The index measures the relative price levels in participating areas. The average for all participating places equals 100, and each area's index is a percentage of the average for all areas.

One of the index components measures the relative price of health care between areas. The majority of the areas included in the index, 56 percent, had health care prices below the national average in 2016. However, the 44 percent of places with health care prices above the national average were well above the national average. The three Kansas metropolitan areas included in the index, averaged 4.4 percent below the national average when weighted by population.



Many of the metropolitan areas of the country with the highest health care prices were in Alaska and Washington. The top ten most expensive urban areas for health care in 2016 were on average 34 percent above the national average. The ten least expensive urban areas in 2016 for health care were on average 22.2 percent below the national average.

Ten Most Expensive Urban Areas - 2016

Ranking	Urban Areas	COLI
1	Fairbanks AK	151.8
2	Juneau AK	149.4
3	Anchorage AK	143.5
4	Kodiak AK	141.5
5	Boston MA	133.5
6	Seattle WA	127.7
7	Everett WA	124.9
8	Framingham-Natick MA	124.6
9	Bellingham WA	122.7
10	Madison WI	120.6

Source: C2ER

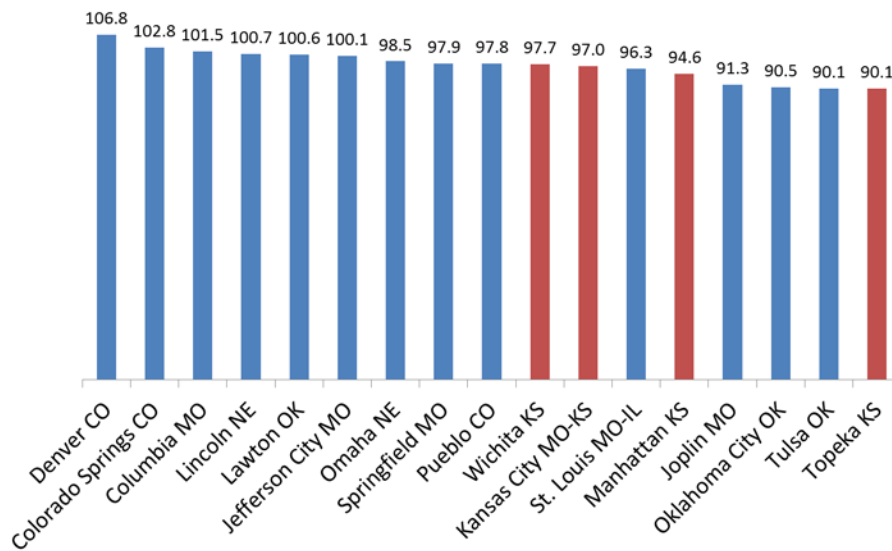
Ten Least Expensive Urban Areas - 2016

Ranking	Urban Areas	COLI
1	San Juan PR	53.8
2	Wilkes-Barre PA	75.4
3	McAllen TX	76.4
4	Richmond IN	77.8
5	Auburn-Opelika AL	81.8
6	Bowling Green KY	82.2
7	Montgomery AL	82.3
8	Jonesboro AR	82.3
9	Statesboro-Bulloch County GA	83.0
10	Nashville-Murfreesboro TN	83.1

Source: C2ER

Health care costs within the five-state region surrounding Kansas were generally below the national average. Across the three metropolitan areas in Colorado, the cost of health care was the highest in the region, 5.6 percent above the national average, when weighted by population. The cost of health care in the two Nebraska metropolitan areas was 0.9 percent below the national average, followed by the five Missouri metropolitan areas at 3.2 percent below the national average. The three Kansas metropolitan areas had a weighted average cost of health care 4.4 percent below the national average. The three Oklahoma metropolitan areas had the lowest weighted average cost of health care at 9.1 percent below the national average.

Cost of Living Index - Health Care - 2016



Source: C2ER