



**Veterinary Training Program**

**VT PRK**

**For Rural Kansas**

**Bonnie Rush, DVM, MS, DACVIM**  
Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine  
Kansas State University



# Graduate employment

## Fierce competition over veterinary labor

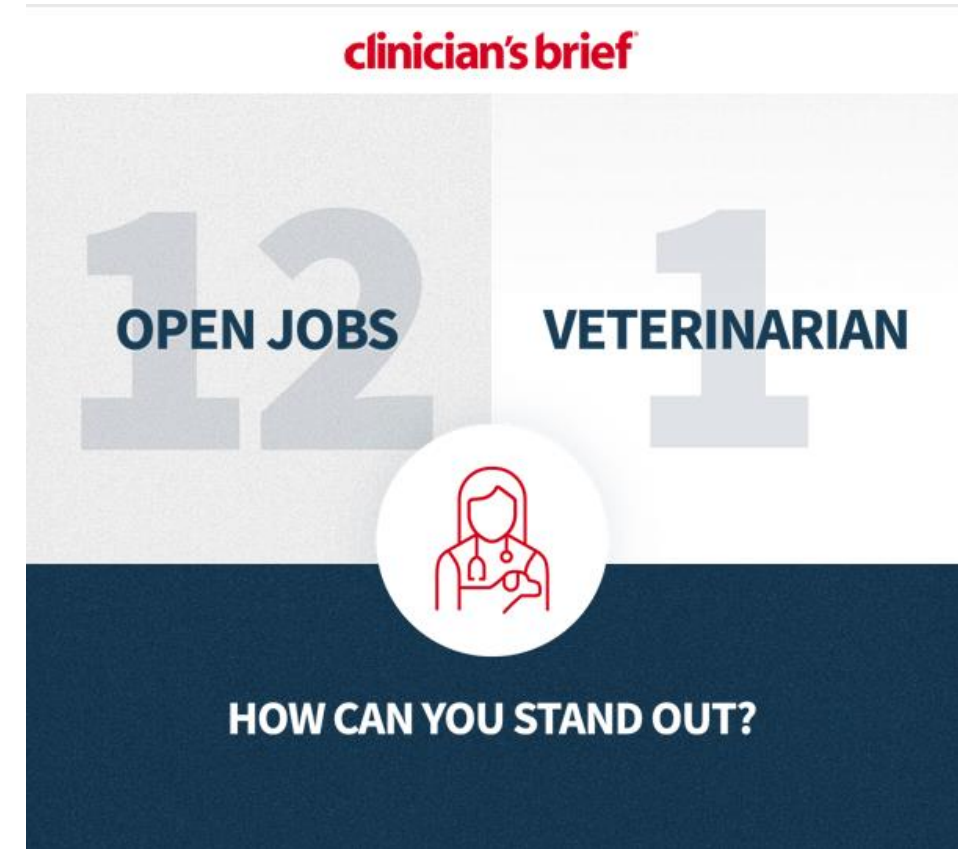
Practices compete over veterinarians

*By R. Scott Nolen*

Veterinary medicine is in the midst of a tight labor market for a highly sought-after workforce for which striking a work-life balance is of supreme importance.

### AVMA:

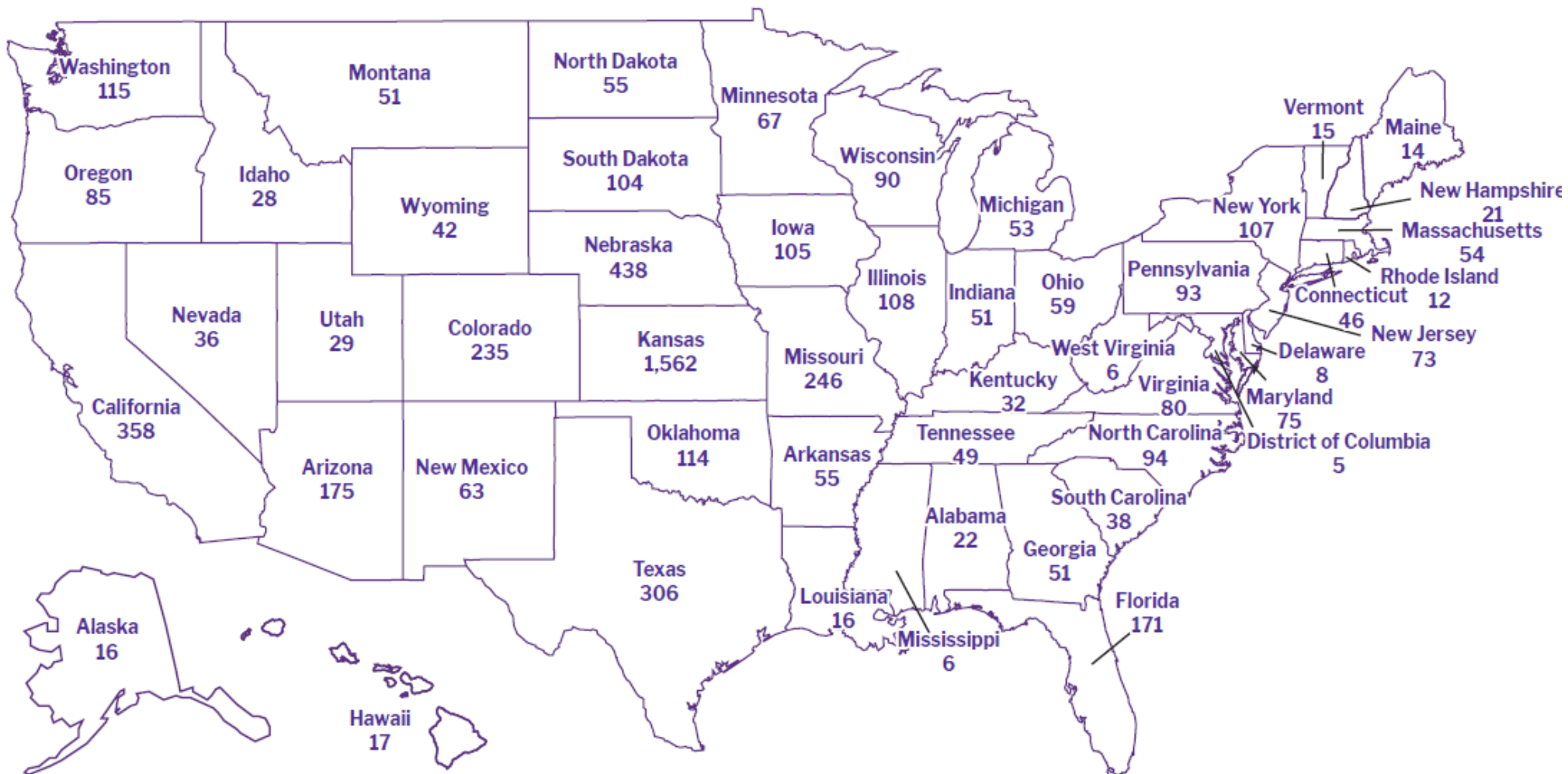
- 2021 unemployment rate = 0.7%
- 2021: YoY 13% industry growth
- 17%-35% projected employment growth over 10 yrs
- 2.5 offers/graduate
- 3.1 jobs/job seeker



- **Addressing Educational Debt**
  - Froze tuition - 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year
  - Eliminated hidden costs – (\$6,700)
  - Scholarship endowment: \$13.8M ('16) to \$25.6M ('21)
- **Kansas Graduates (Tuition \$98K)**
  - 2019: \$128.3K
  - 2020: \$122.5K
  - 2021: \$101.8K
- **Out-of-State Graduates (Tuition \$215K)**
  - 2019: \$264.8K
  - 2020: \$254.3K
  - 2021: \$236.1K
- 2021 National Board Examination pass rate = 97% (NA = 94%)
- 2021 New graduate employment = 99%



# COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE ALUMNI BY STATE & TERRITORY



# Starting Salaries: 2021

<b>Category</b>	<b>National</b>	<b>Kansas</b>
<b>FA Exclusive</b>	\$84,963	\$75,000
<b>FA Predominant</b>	\$77,205	\$78,167
<b>Mixed</b>	\$84,726	\$74,500
<b>Companion Animal Predominant</b>	\$100,803	\$91,688
<b>Companion Animal Exclusive</b>	\$102,952	\$98,100
<b>Equine</b>	\$55,192	\$75,500
<b>Private Practice Total</b>	\$97,879	\$88,426

## Career Path: Graduation



	2019	2020	2021	U.S.
Large Animal ( $\geq 50\%$ )	26	22	24	12.1
Small animal	39	48	42	53.1
Advanced Training	32	26	31	29.5
Unemployed	0	0	1	0.7

# Veterinary Training Program for Rural Kansas

- Established in 2006: \$400K state appropriation
- Participants
  - 5 students/class
  - \$20,000/year x 4 years
- Four years in Kansas County < 35,000
- Full-time veterinary practice



# Educational Requirements

## Food Animal Certificate Program (14 credits)

Issues in rural practice

Rural practice management

Rural business management

Production medicine

Externship - rural practice

Technical skills assessment

Attend Continuing Education

Monthly Meetings

Summer Tour of KS Ag Production

Capstone Experience Presentation

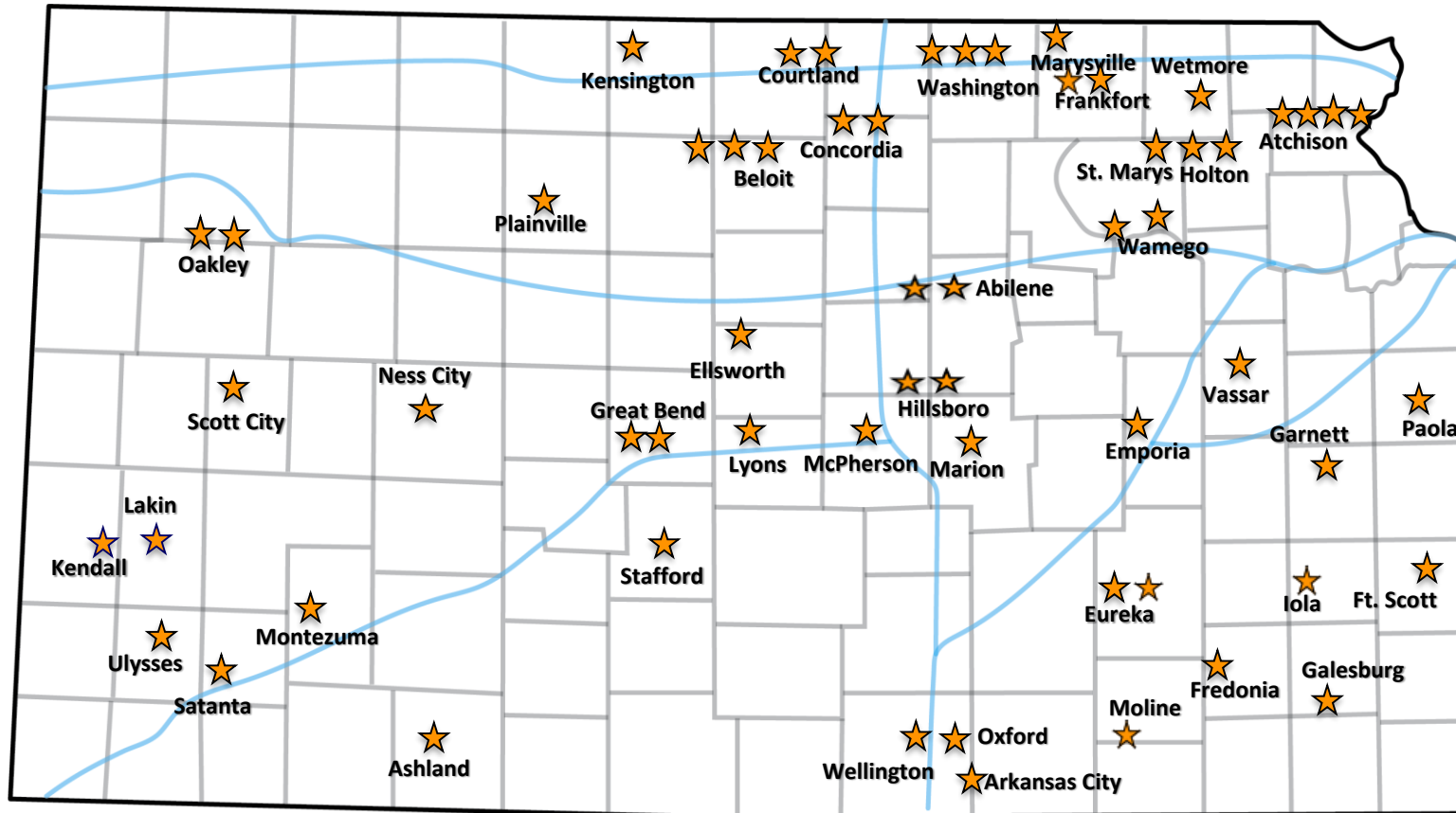


*I was able to do a masters research project with Kansas feedyards...(which) got me hooked. Raising beef that feeds the world is noble work, I am proud to be a part of the puzzle!*

*– Dr. Tara Barnhardt, VTPRK 2014*



# Rural Scholarship Program: 2006-2021



- 80 recipients
- 80/80 Kansans
- 33 males/47 females
- 98% fulfilled(ing) 4 yrs

Beyond 4 years: 94% are still practicing in a qualifying county.  
77% remain in the practice of origin.

# *Rural Veterinary Workforce Development Taskforce*

*KSU College of Agriculture: Mike Day, Ken Odde*

*KS Department of Agriculture: Mike Beam, Kelsey Olson*

*Kansas Farm Bureau: Nancy Brown*

*Kansas Livestock Association: Matt Teagarden*

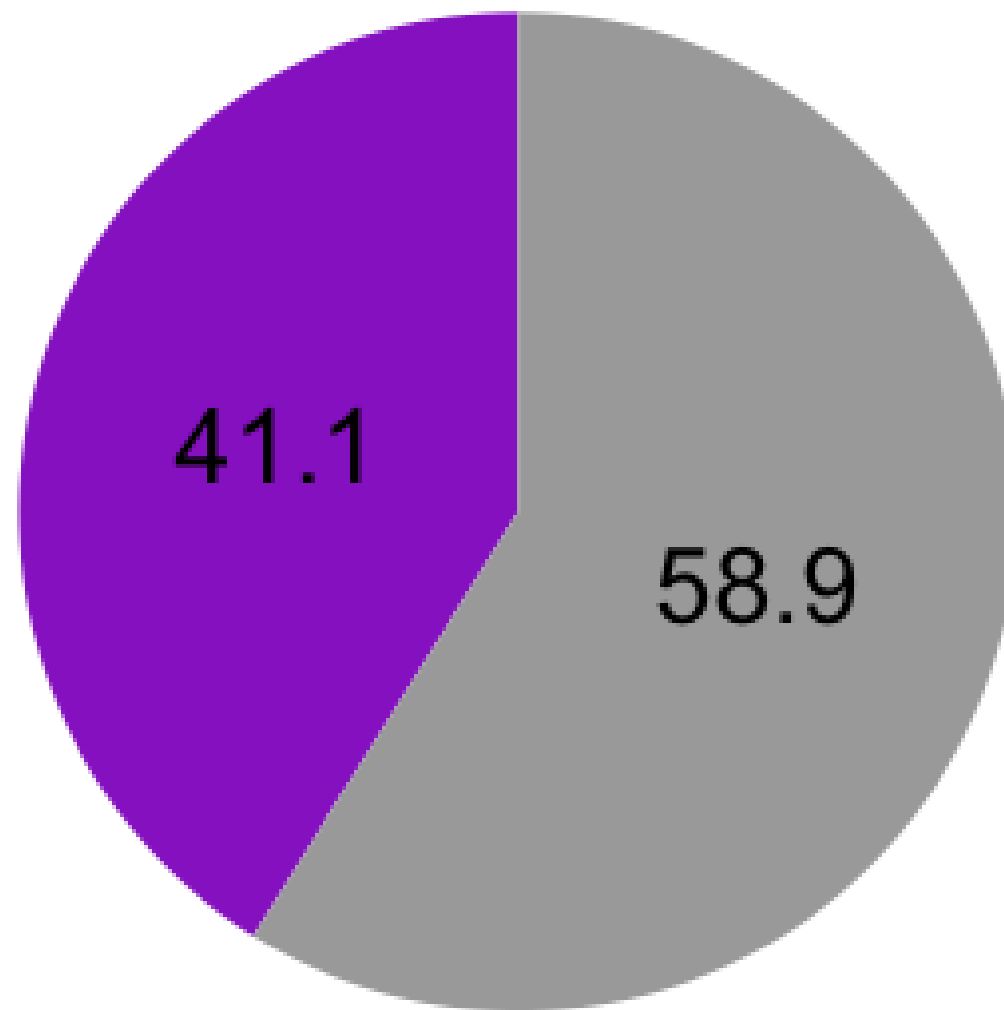
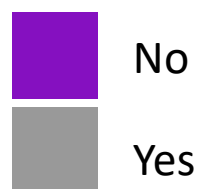
*Livestock Marketing Association: Joe Barbour*

*KSU College of Veterinary Medicine: Bonnie Rush, Brad White*

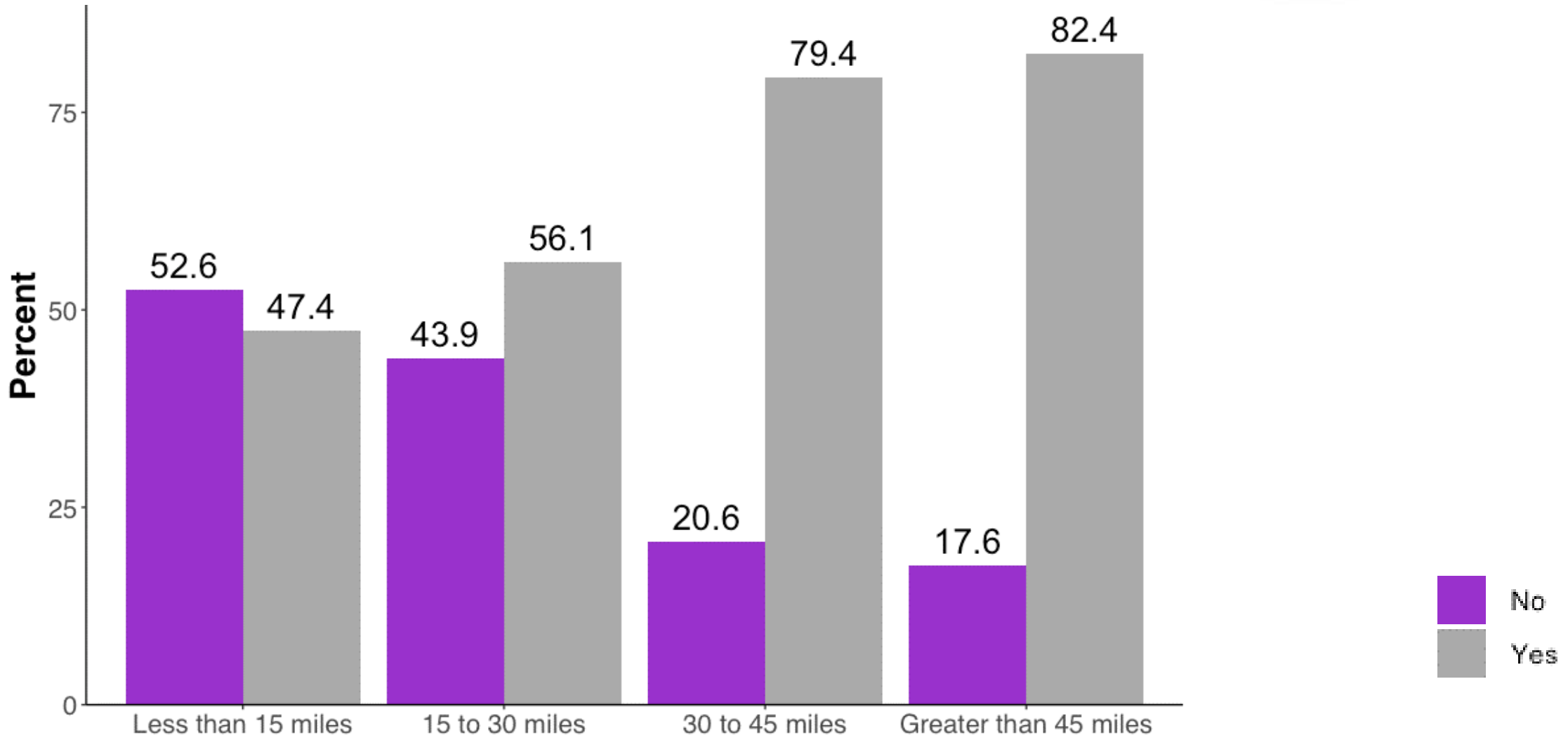
*KS Veterinary Medical Association: Megan Kilgore*

# Producer Survey

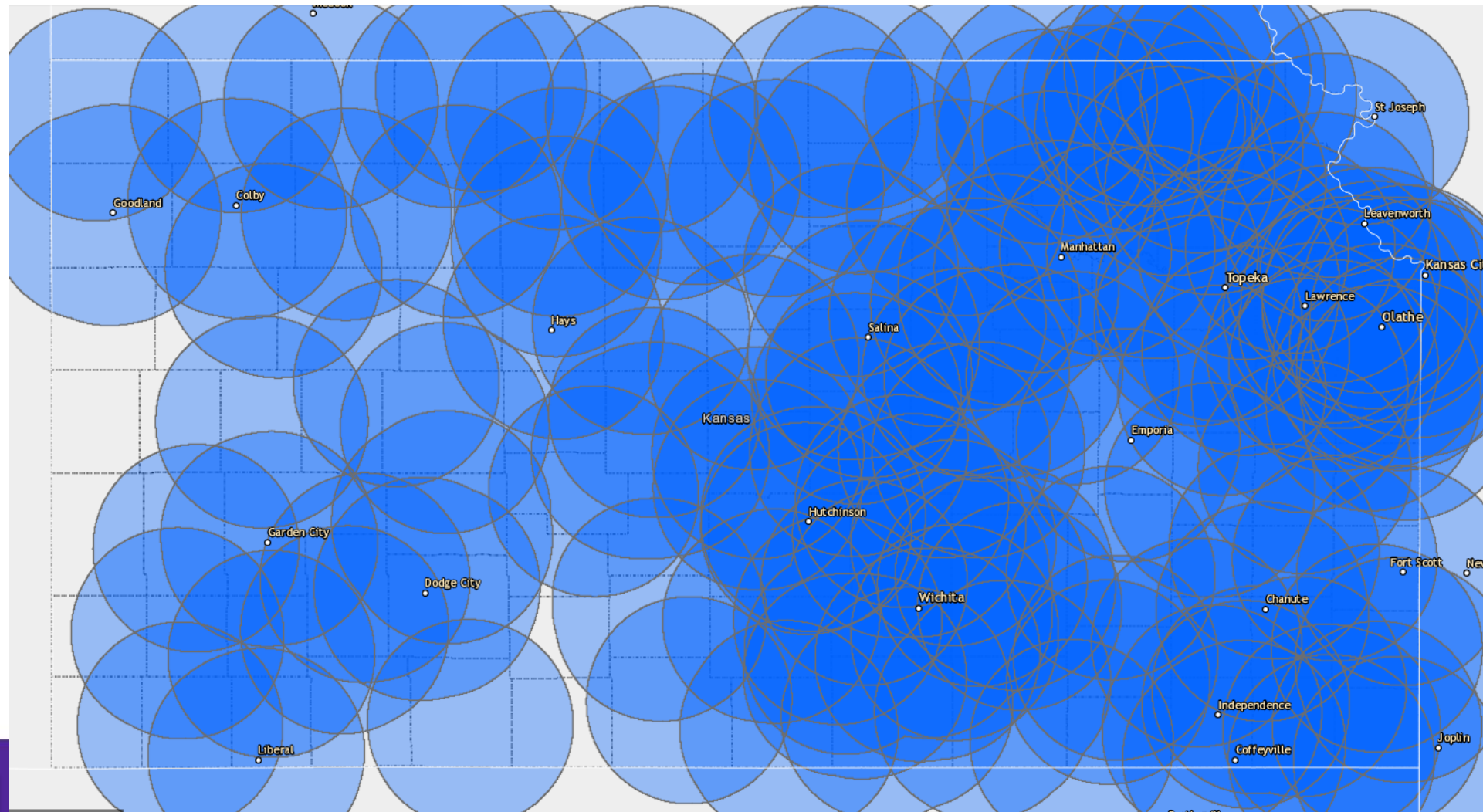
Do you perceive a shortage of veterinarians?



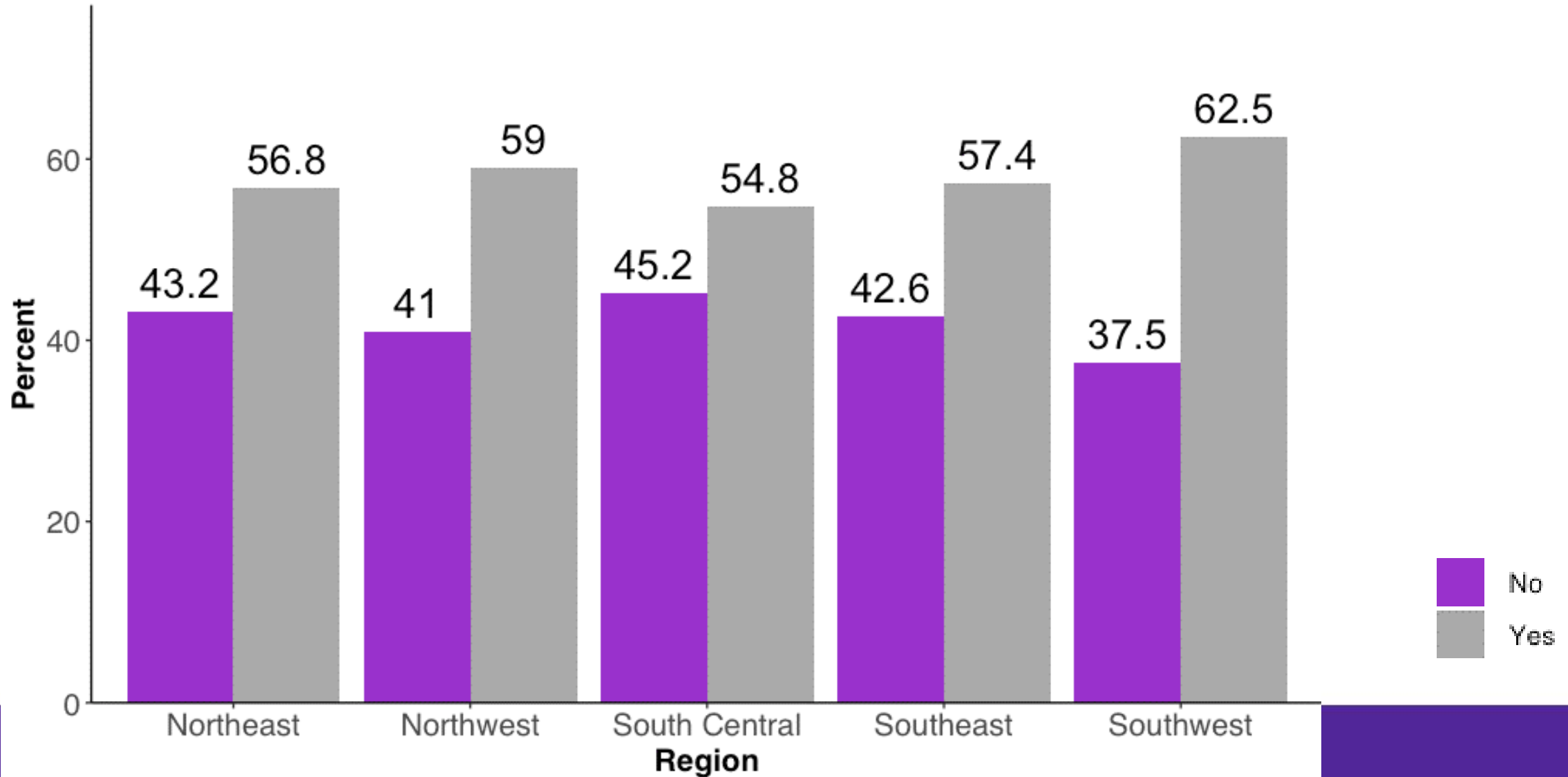
# How far away is your veterinarian?



# 30 mile radius from each large animal practice



# Shortage? By geographic region.





*Exceptional teaching.*  
*Impactful research.*  
*Outstanding service.*  
*Extraordinary graduates.*

