

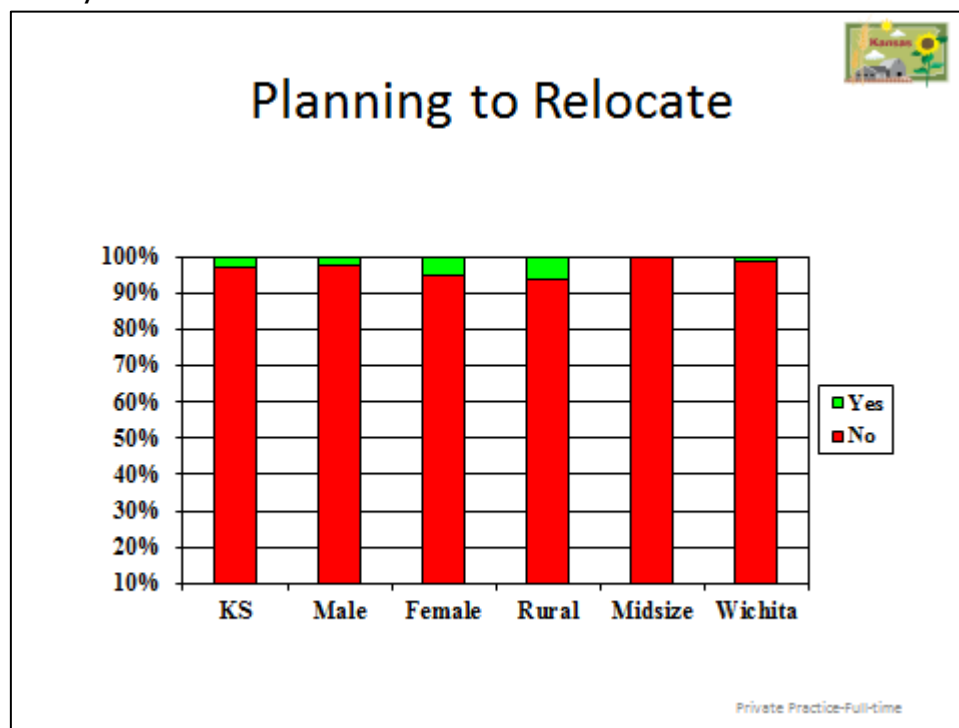
Kansas Family Physician Plans to Relocate

A previously published report showed that there are a significant number of Kansas family physicians who relocate from their initial practice community to a second community within the first three years after completing residency.¹ There are many reasons these moves might occur. The new residency graduate might be “trying out” an initial practice site before choosing a community where they can “settle in for the long haul”. The new graduate may have chosen an initial practice site without sufficient study of the community or understanding of practice finances. A first practice location may be chosen as a transitional opportunity before deciding on a definitive career path.

Relocation from one community to another is less likely more than three years after graduation from residency.*

In the late 1980’s when Kansas suffered a crisis in the cost of medical liability insurance, there were many reports of rural physicians moving to other states or joining urban Kansas practices. Medical liability insurance costs were lower in many other states and were less expensive when purchased as part of a large group.

In 2012, a survey of Kansas family physicians asked, “Are you planning to relocate within the next year?”



In 2012, regardless of community size or physician gender, few practicing family physicians in Kansas are planning to relocate within the next year.

1. Frisch L, Kellerman R, Ast T. A cohort study of family practice residency graduates in a predominantly rural state: initial practice site selection and trajectories of practice movement. *J Rural Health*. 2003 Winter;19(1):47-54.