

Australia's relationship with

# KANSAS



## KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 2,913,314 ([2019](#))
- **Major Cities:** Topeka (capital), Wichita (largest), Kansas City (Shared with Missouri)
- **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** \$174,183 Million (2019).
- **Key Industries:** Manufacturing, Aviation and Aerospace, Agriculture (Wheat)
- **Known for:** Boot Hill, Evel Knievel Museum, home of Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz, Walter Chrysler, Dwight Eisenhower, Amelia Earhart, top wheat producer in the US, nick named "The Sunflower State", and "The Jayhawk State"
- **National Rankings:** ([out of 50 states](#))
  - Economy: 36th
  - Healthcare: 33rd
  - Infrastructure: 7th
  - Education: 15th
  - Fiscal Stability: 35th
  - [State size by area:](#) 15th
  - [State size by population:](#) 35th
  - Density: 31st

## ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

- **Two-Way Trade:** US\$425.9 Million (2019)
- **Australia's Exports to Kansas:** US\$243.3. Million ([2019](#))
- **Kansas's Exports to Australia:** US\$180.6 Million ([2019](#))
- **Priority Sectors for the Australia-Kansas economic relationship:** Aircraft Parts, Pet Food, Telecommunication Equipment, Earthmoving Equipment.

## PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

- **Sister Cities:**
  - Derby, KS and Derby, WA
  - Leavenworth, KS and Wagga Wagga, NSW
- **Local Aussie-Inspired Shops:**
  - Ozzy Bakes: Coldwater, KS
  - Banksia: Kansas City, MO

- **Representation:** Australia's relationship with Kansas is managed by the **Consulate General in Chicago**.
- **Consul General:** David Bushby
- **Defence Personnel:** 4 (Fort Levonworth)

## POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Governor:** Laura Kelly (D), next election in 2022
- **2020 Presidential Outcome:** Trump 56.1%
- **Senators:** [Roger Marshall \(R\)](#), [Jerry Moran \(R\)](#)
- **House:** 3 Republicans, 1 Democrat

## AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

- **Australian Sporting Teams:** The Kansas City Power ([USAFL](#)) in MO
- **Social media groups:** [www.facebook.com/groups/AustraliansInKS/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/AustraliansInKS/)

## AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

- **Bradken Limited:** A global manufacturer and supplier of differentiated consumable and capital products to the mining, transport, general industrial and contract manufacturing markets
- **Parnell:** Offers digital technology platforms that integrate with our innovative products to offer vets and animal owners solutions to their animal health needs.
- **The Manildra Group:** An Australian agribusiness based in Sydney. Manildra USA, an international agriculture company, proving ingredients, focused on the market from farmer to customer.
- **Promise Pay:** An online third-party payment company based in Australia that focuses on providing services to ecommerce companies. Promise Pay is led by CEO Simon Lee who seeks to grow and expand both Promise Pay and the online payments industry as a whole.



## GLOBAL BUSINESS

- Bradken Limited
- Cerner Corporation
- H&R Block

## UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

- **Kansas State University** was the first US education institution to partner with the Australian-American Fulbright Commission in 1950, giving two Australian researchers the opportunity to study at their university annually.
- **Nationally Ranked Universities**  
University of Kansas: #130  
Kansas State University: #162

## MAJOR EVENTS

- **The Kansas State Fair:** The Kansas State Fair is the largest event in Kansas featuring over 280-acres of the best of Kansas' agriculture, livestock, and commerce as well as live entertainment. The fair is an event heavily utilized by politicians as a way to connect with their constituents, especially during an election year.
  - **The Amelia Earhart Festival:** The Amelia Earhart Festival honours and celebrates the great aviatrix including a downtown music and an outdoor concert on the picturesque Riverfront.
  - **Tulip Time Festival:** The Tulip Time Festival features over 50,000 tulips and 7,000 daffodils. Other features of the botanical garden, such as a 50-yard cascading rock rivulet, 500 varieties of trees and shrubs in the 2.5 acres garden, and historic building tours.
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