



RFSI

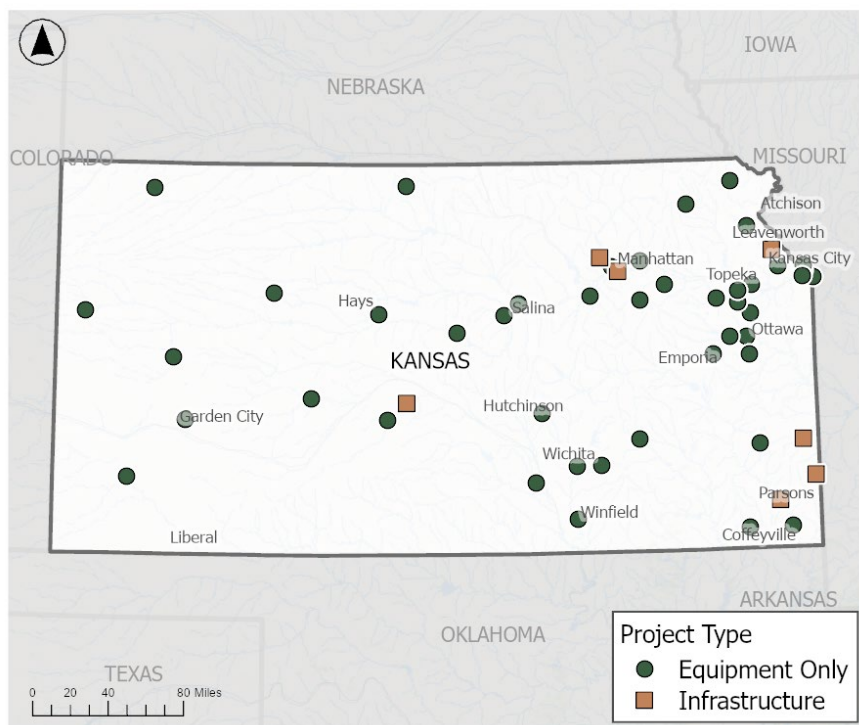
Resilient Food Systems
Infrastructure Program

Kansas



State Overview

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded the Kansas Department of Agriculture **\$6.4 million** through the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program. The objective of RFSI is to expand capacity for aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of locally and regionally produced agricultural food products. These federal funds will support 67 Kansas infrastructure and equipment projects increasing access to new market opportunities, benefiting local and regional producers and processors.



Project Highlights

- **An upgrade to grain-milling facilities and equipment** to process Kansas wheat will create products such as specialty flours, benefiting 130 local farmers.
- **A refrigerated delivery vehicle** purchase will enhance transportation and aggregation of local produce from regional growers to 15 farm-to-school market outlets.
- **Access to shared-use commercial kitchen equipment** will increase local producers' development of over 40 new value-added products from local products such as fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, grains, and honey.

Anticipated Outcomes*

1,890

Local/Regional
Producers Benefited

638

New Market Outlets
Established

8

Distribution Vehicles
Purchased

5

New Facilities
Constructed

138

Storage/Aggregation
Units Purchased

896

New Value-Added
Products Developed

419

Processing Equipment
Purchased

87

Jobs
Created

**These numbers are reported by states and subawardees.*

RFSI was awarded to the 56 States and Territories in May 2023. Each state conducted a competitive grant review and selection process. States identified their funding priorities through extensive outreach with key industry stakeholders, which guided their selection process to ensure a robust state and local food system representation. Selected projects fund locally and regionally produced food products, including specialty crops, dairy, grains for human consumption, aquaculture, and other food products, excluding meat and poultry.

Infrastructure Projects: Snapshot

Infrastructure Grant projects can involve facility and equipment expansion and upgrades, new construction, and modernized information technology systems.

Kansas invested more than **\$3.1 million** across 8 Infrastructure projects benefiting 446 local and regional producers. These projects include:

- Developing a new aggregation and distribution facility with refrigerated and climate-controlled storage to support wholesale distribution of local produce, legumes, and grains from 30 regional farms;
- Building a new washing and packing facility that supports post-harvest processing, aggregation, and cold storage of local produce from regional farmers; and
- Constructing a warehouse and cold storage facility to enhance aggregation and distribution of produce and baked goods, such as breads, cakes, and rolls.

Equipment Only Projects: Snapshot

Equipment Only projects are intended to purchase special purpose equipment such as cold/dry storage, distribution vehicles, and processing and packaging equipment.

Kansas invested more than **\$3.2 million** across 59 Equipment Only projects purchasing more than 475 pieces of aggregation, processing, storage, and distribution equipment—including commercial ovens, honey extractors, grain storage containers, and walk-in coolers. The state expects 1,444 local and regional producers will benefit from reduced harvest loss, improved product quality and shelf life, and access to 570 new markets.

Statewide Standouts



Over 60 percent of Kansas projects will focus on storage, processing, and delivery of local fruits and vegetables.



As one of the states with the highest number of milling projects, Kansas will fund nine projects focusing on milling, processing, and distribution of local wheat, sorghum, Kernza, and heirloom grains.



At least 80 percent of Kansas' infrastructure projects will install specialized equipment for local produce such as processing components, and sorting, packing and labeling equipment.



More than \$190,000 will go into six projects to support local honey processing and bottling of honey-based products in the state.