



Environmental Education-- Promoting Sustainability

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What Do You Know About the Environment?

Please take a moment to take this short quiz



How Do You Compare?

Question One: How is most of the energy in the US generated? Is it...

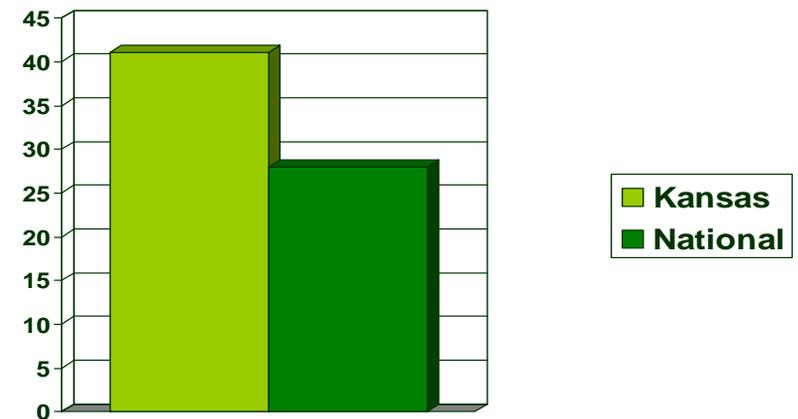
- a. By burning oil, coal and wood
- b. With nuclear power
- c. Through solar energy
- d. At hydroelectric power plants
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer a



NOTE: Most common response for Kansas was a. Nationally, most common response was answer d.

Percentages Answering Correctly



Kansas: 41%

National: 28%

How Do You Compare?

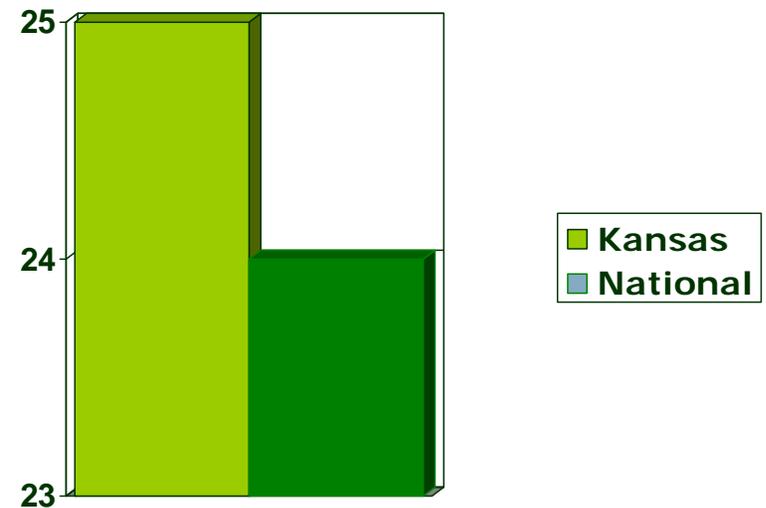
Question Two: What is the most common cause of pollution in streams, rivers and oceans? Is it...

- a. Dumping of garbage by cities
- b. Surface water running off yards, city streets, paved lots and farm fields
- c. Trash washed into the oceans from beaches
- d. Water dumped by factories
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer b



Percentages Answering Correctly



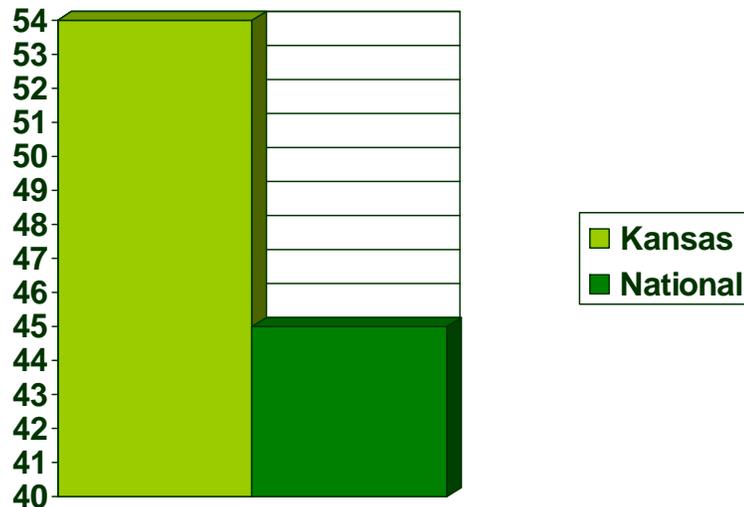
Kansas: 25%

National: 24%

NOTE: Most common response in Kansas and Nationally was Answer d.

How Do You Compare?

Percentages Answering Correctly



Kansas: 54%

National: 45%



NOTE: Most common response in Kansas and Nationally was Answer c.

Question Three: What do you think is the main cause of global climate change, that is, the warming of the planet Earth? Is it...

- a. A recent increase in oxygen in the atmosphere
- b. Sunlight radiating more strongly through a hole in the upper ozone layer
- c. More carbon emissions from autos, homes and industry
- d. Increased activity from volcanoes worldwide
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer c

How Do You Compare?

Question Four: To the best of your knowledge, what percent of the world's water is fresh and available for use? Is it...

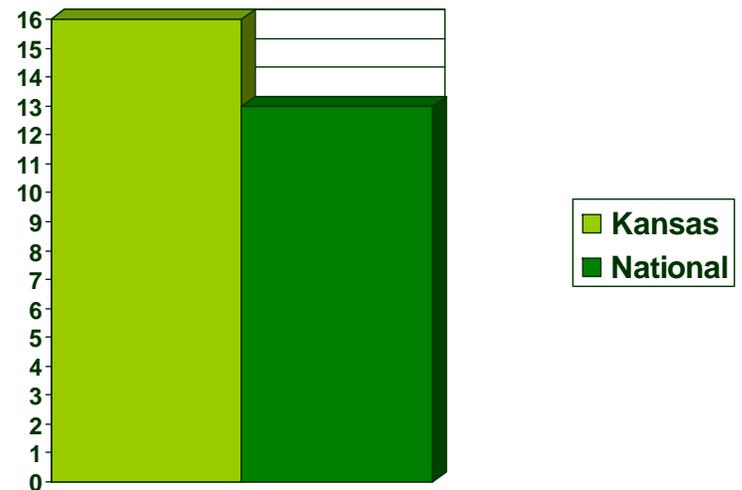
- a. 1%
- b. 5%
- c. 10%
- d. 33%
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer a



NOTE: Most common Kansas response was e. Most common National response was c.

Percentages Answering Correctly



Kansas: 16%

National: 13%

How Do You Compare?

Question Five: The current worldwide reduction in the number of ocean fish is PRIMARILY due to which of the following:

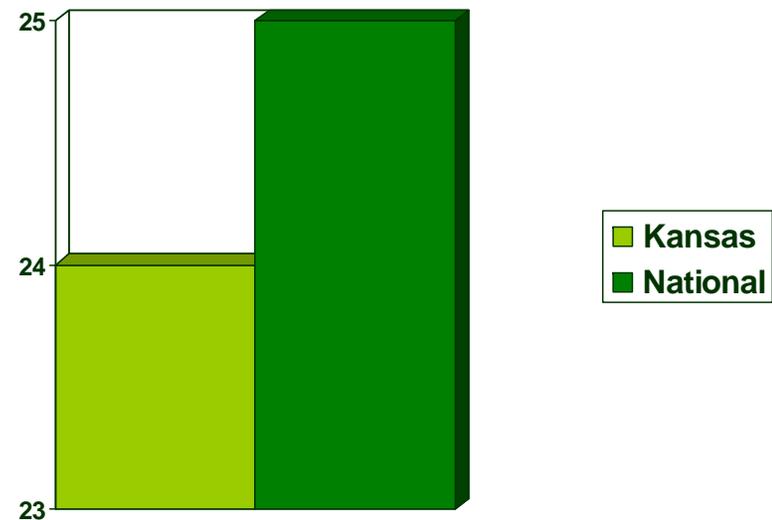
- a. Pollution in coastal waters worldwide
- b. Increased harvesting by fishing vessels
- c. Changes in ocean temperature
- d. Lost of fishing shoals and other deep sea habitats
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer b



NOTE: Most common response for Kansas and Nationally was a.

Percentages Answering Correctly



Kansas: 24%

National: 25%

How Do You Compare?

Question Six: What is the leading cause of childhood death worldwide? Is it...

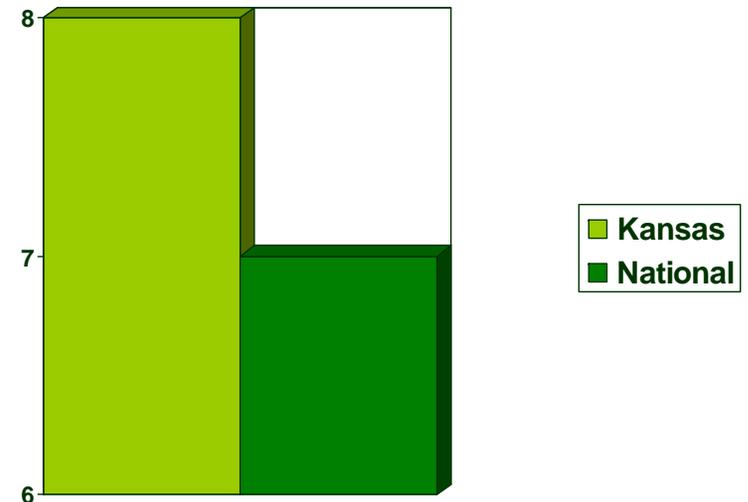
- a. Malnutrition and starvation
- b. Asthma from dust in the air
- c. Auto and home accidents
- d. Germs in the water
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer d

NOTE: Most common response in Kansas and Nationally was a.



Percentages Answering Correctly

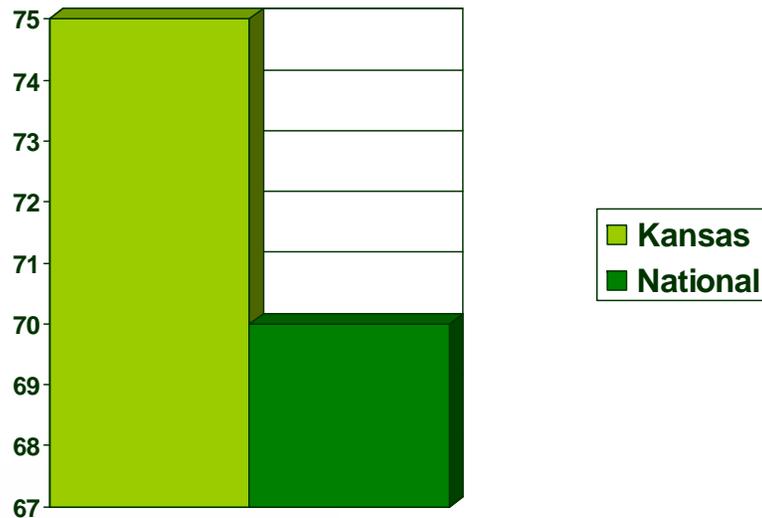


Kansas: 8%

National: 7%

How Do You Compare?

Percentages Answering Correctly



Kansas: 75%

National: 70%

Question Seven: What is the most common reason that an animal species become extinct? Is it...

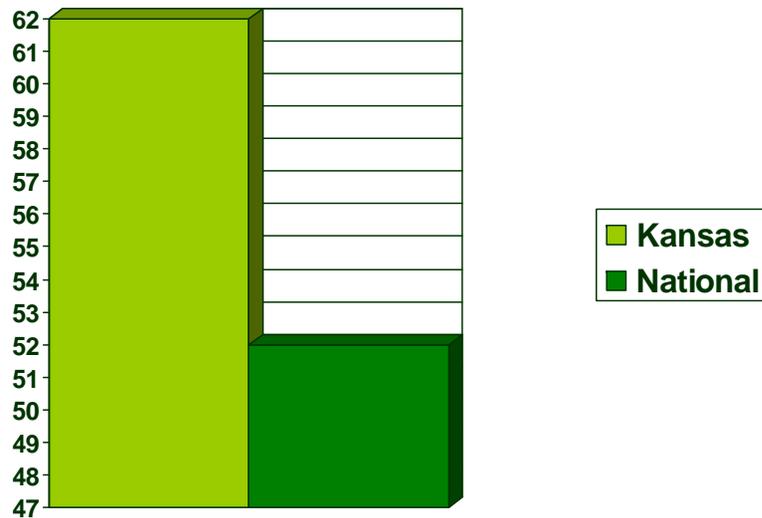
- a. Pesticides are killing them
- b. Their habitats are being destroyed by humans
- c. There is too much hunting
- d. There are climate changes that affect them
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer b

Note: Most common response in Kansas and Nationally was answer b.

How Do You Compare?

Percentages Answering Correctly



Kansas: 62%

National: 52%

Question Eight: There are thousands of waste disposal areas—dumps and landfills—in the US that hold toxic waste. The greatest threat posed by these waste disposal areas is...

- a. Chemical air pollution
- b. Contact with farm animals and household pets
- c. Contamination of water supplies
- d. Human consumption through contaminated foods
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer c

Note: Most common response in Kansas and Nationally was c.

How Do You Compare?

Question Nine: Many communities are concerned about running out of room in their community trash dumps and landfills. Is the greatest source of landfill material...

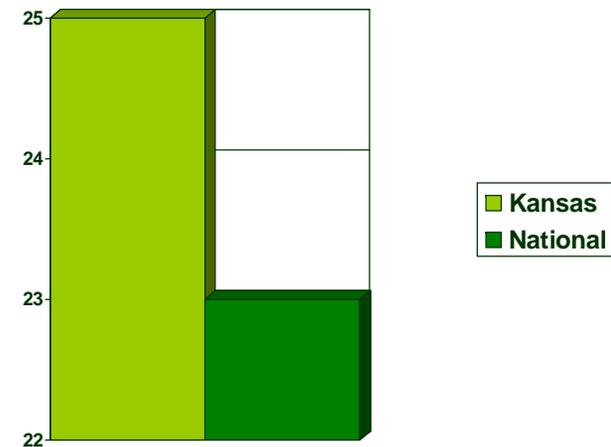
- a. Disposable diapers
- b. Lawn and garden clippings, trimmings and leaves
- c. Paper products including newspapers, cardboard and packaging
- d. Glass and plastic bottles and aluminum and steel cans
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer c



NOTE: Most common response in KS was d, with c close behind. Nationally most common was a & d, with c close behind

Percentages Answering Correctly



Kansas: 25%

National: 23%

How Do You Compare?

Question Ten: Some scientists have expressed concern that chemicals and certain minerals accumulate in the human body at dangerous levels. Do these chemicals and minerals enter the body PRIMARILY through...

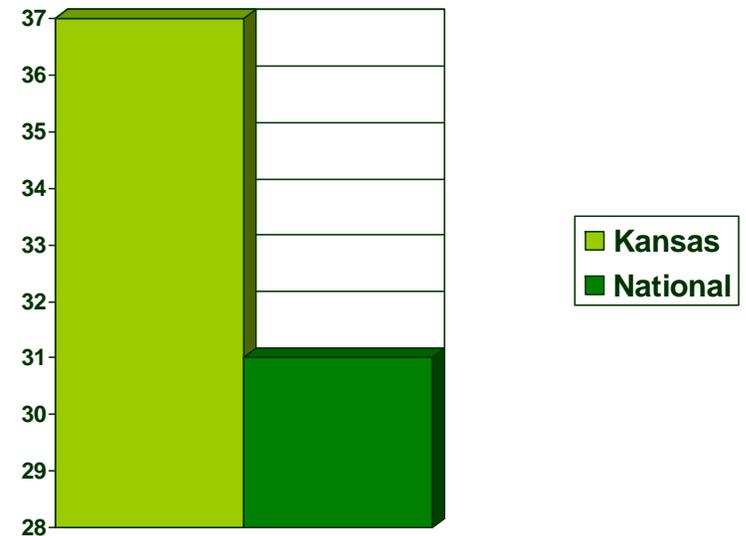
- a. Breathing the air
- b. Living near toxic waste dumps
- c. Household cleaning products
- d. Drinking Water
- e. Don't know

CORRECT: Answer d



NOTE: Most common response in Kansas was d. Nationally most common response was a and d.

Percentages Answering Correctly



Kansas: 37%

National: 31%

How Did Kansans Do?

While **70% of Kansans believe they know a lot or a fair amount about the environment** (similar to National findings), Kansans performed quite poorly when given this ten-question quiz about environmental issues. On average, Kansans answered only **3.7 out of 10 questions correctly**.



Other Findings: Environmental Attitudes

- Most Kansans believe that environment and economy can go hand in hand (70%).
- Kansans believe that the most pressing environmental issues are: polluted water, fresh water shortages, cutting forests and air pollution, with polluted water being identified as the most serious of these problems.
- When it comes to solving environmental problems, Kansans view environmental organizations as most reliable when compared to citizen groups, government and private business.



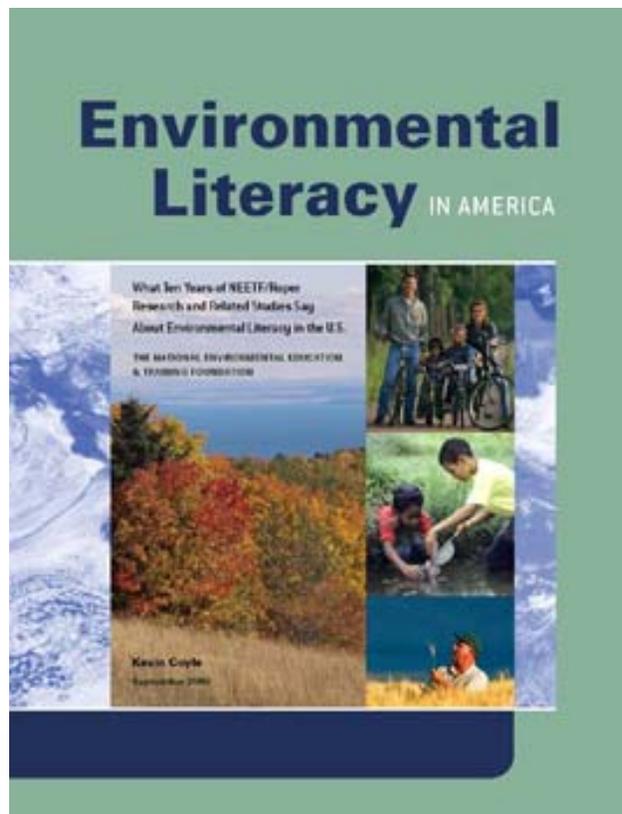
Other Findings: Environmental Activities

In general, Kansans engage in activities that benefit the environment in the same proportions as the rest of the population with two notable differences:

- **Far more** Kansans report that they participate in recycling of waste (newspapers, glass, cans) than do Americans in general.
- **Far fewer** Kansans report that they use alternative types of transportation (e.g. biking, bus), instead of using a car.



NEETF/Roper Starch Surveys



- 10 Years of Environmental Literacy Surveys www.neetf.org
- Only 3 out of 10 Americans can pass a quiz on basic environmental knowledge (NEETF, 1999)
- Most Americans believe they know more about the environment than they actually do (NEETF, 2005)
- KS Environmental Report Card www.kacee.org
- Makes case for increasing EE in schools



Parents Support Teaching EE in Schools

- **95% of adults and 96% of parents in the US support Environmental Education being taught in schools** (*National Report Card on Environmental Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviors, 1997*).
- **In Kansas, 94% of those surveyed believe it is important to teach EE in schools** (KDHE Survey of General Public, 1998).



EE and Sustainability: Kids Today

- American children in 2004 spent **less than half as much time outdoors as their parents**
- Kids are reported to spend **6 ½ hours per day on electronic equipment during their free time (Kaiser Family Foundation)**
- Articles and books talk about “**nature-deficit disorder**” (*Last Child in the Woods*).



EE and Sustainability: What EE Does For Kids

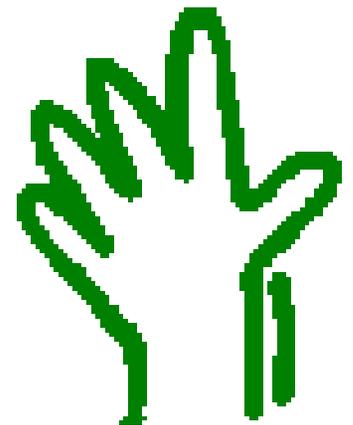
- Engages children in hands-on learning activities that promote **critical thinking & problem solving skills**, increased **environmental knowledge** relevant to the place they live, and development of a **land ethic**.
- Higher levels of environmental knowledge correlate significantly with a **higher degree of pro-environment behavior** (NEETF, 2006).
- Those with a high level of environmental knowledge are twice as likely to **donate funds to conservation** (NEETF, 2006).



Who We Are...KACEE Membership

KACEE was established in 1969 as a **public/private** partnership with currently more than **200 organizational** members and an additional **300+ individual** members.

- Business & Industry
- Organizations
- Federal, State, & Local Agencies
- Colleges & Universities
- Schools & School Districts



KACEE is a non-profit 501(c)3
statewide environmental education
organization

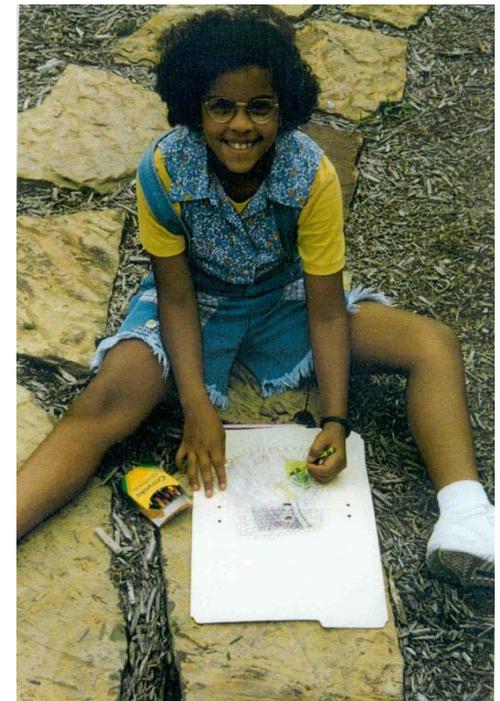


KACEE's Mission:

To promote and provide quality, non-biased and science-based environmental and conservation education for all Kansans.

KACEE's Vision:

KACEE's vision is an environmentally literate Kansas citizenry, with KACEE as the recognized leader in the state's conservation and environmental education network.



Funding & Support for KACEE Programs



Kansas Forest Service	KS Dept of Health and Environment
KS Water Office/State Water Plan Fund	KS Department of Wildlife and Parks
Kansas State Department of Education / Kansas State Board of Education	Additional Public & Private Funds



KACEE Activities:

- Environmental Education Workshops
- Facilitator Training
- Water Festivals
- KS Environmental Education Conference
- Networking & Partnerships
- Special Programs
- Ongoing Membership Communications
- Online EE Community
www.kacee.org



Environmental Education Workshops

- Project Learning Tree, Project WET, Project WILD, Project WILD Aquatic, WET in the City, & Leopold Education Project
- Advanced Workshops
- Audiences: **Formal and Non-Formal Educators, Early Childhood through High School, Pre-Service Teachers**
- Offered across the state through **volunteer facilitator network**
- **Low cost** for educators because programs are sponsored
- More than **1400 educators** trained in 2006, impacting an estimated **31,000 Kansas children**



Environmental Education Workshops

Project WET, Project WILD, Project WILD Aquatic, Project Learning Tree, WET in the City, & Leopold Education Project are:

- **Nationally acclaimed** environmental education programs
- **Interdisciplinary** programs designed for teachers and other educators working with students pre-kindergarten through 12 grade
- Correlated to the **Kansas Core Curricular Standards** in Reading/Writing, Math, Science and Social Studies



Get Involved!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Students in classrooms where the environment is used as an integrating concept for instruction **earn higher grades and score better on standardized tests** in reading, writing and math (Lieberman and Hoody, 1998).