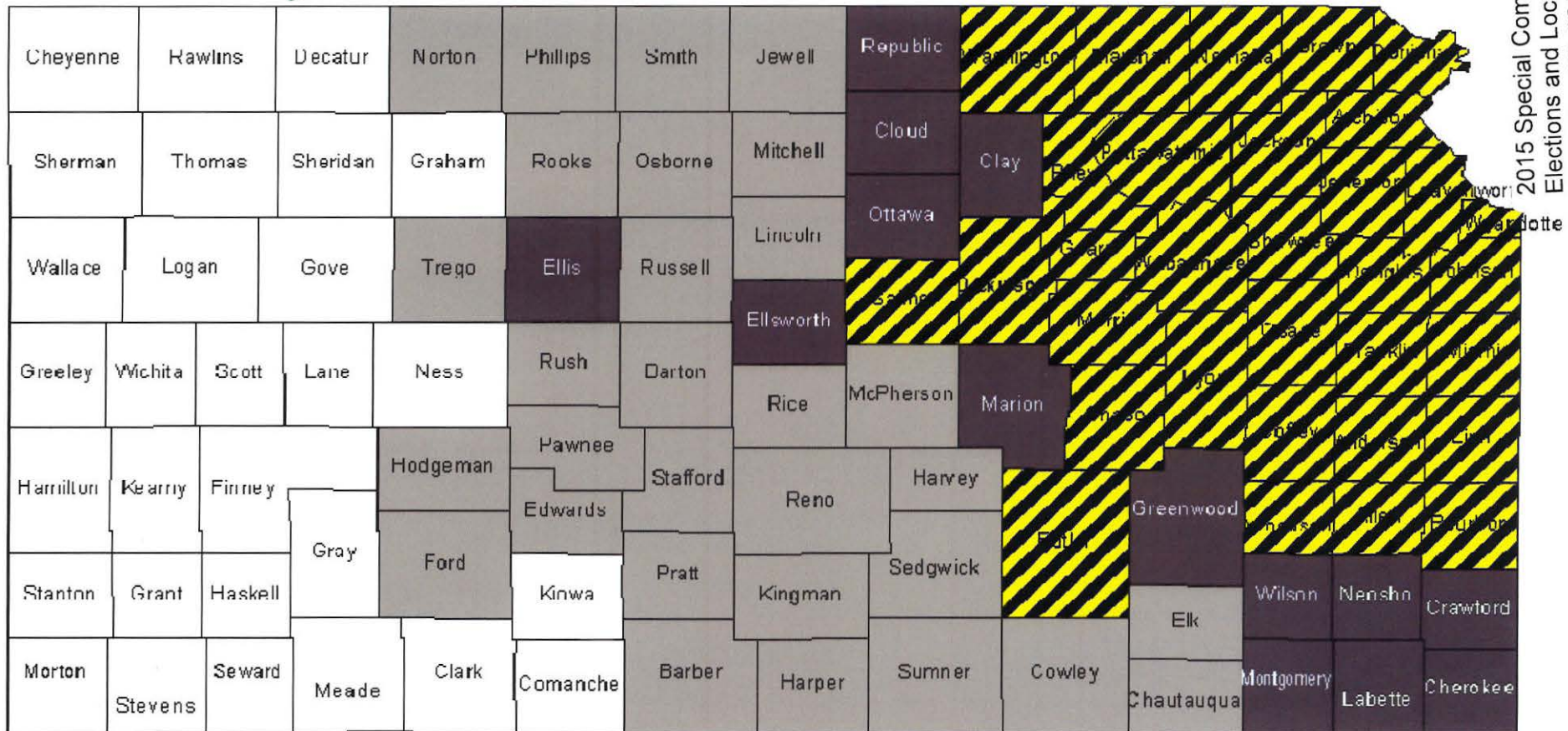


County Establishment



- Striped=Prior to 1861 (Statehood)
- Dark Gray=1861-1869
- Light Gray=1870-1879
- White=1880 or Later

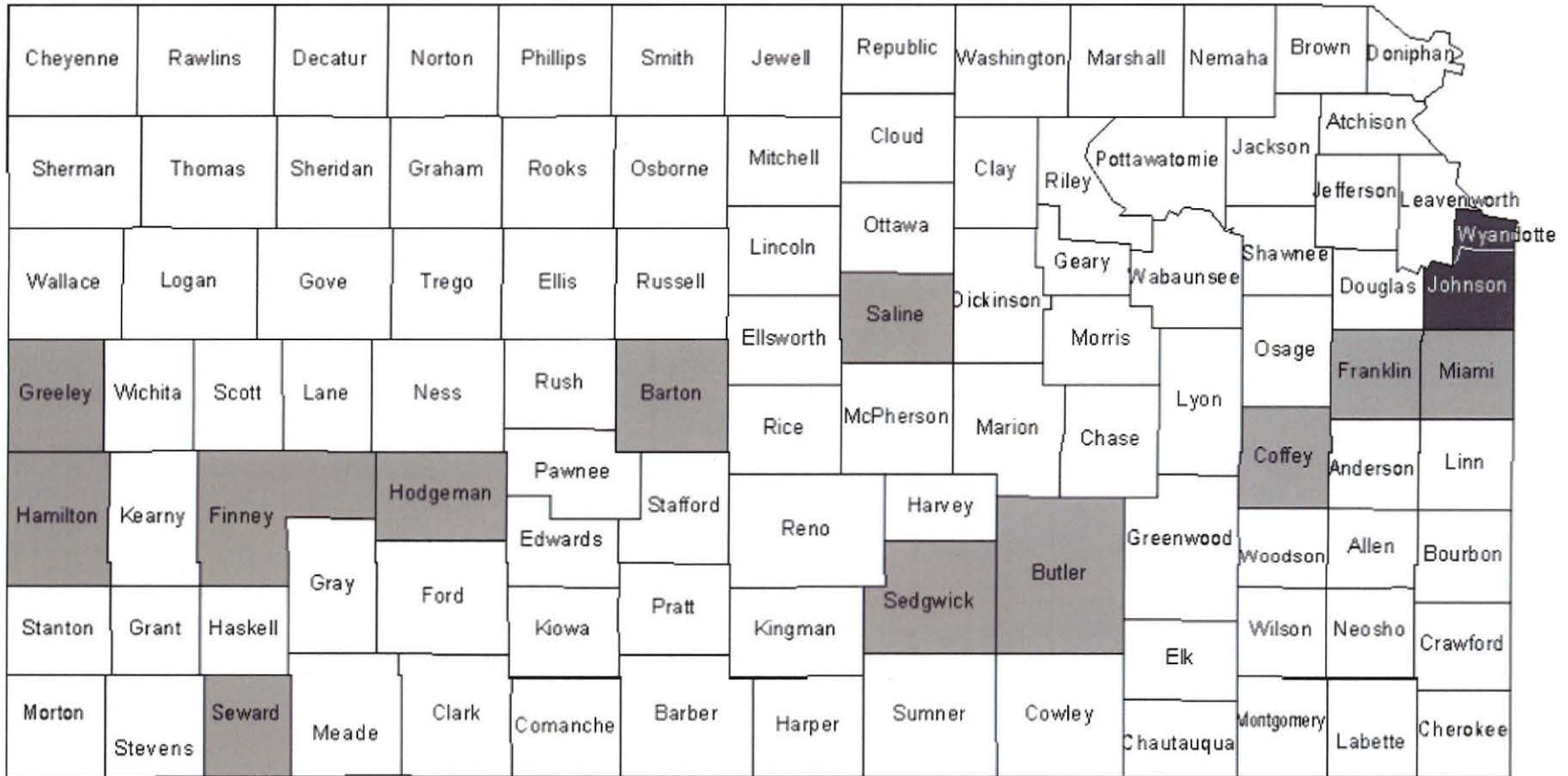
3,068 County Governments in U.S.

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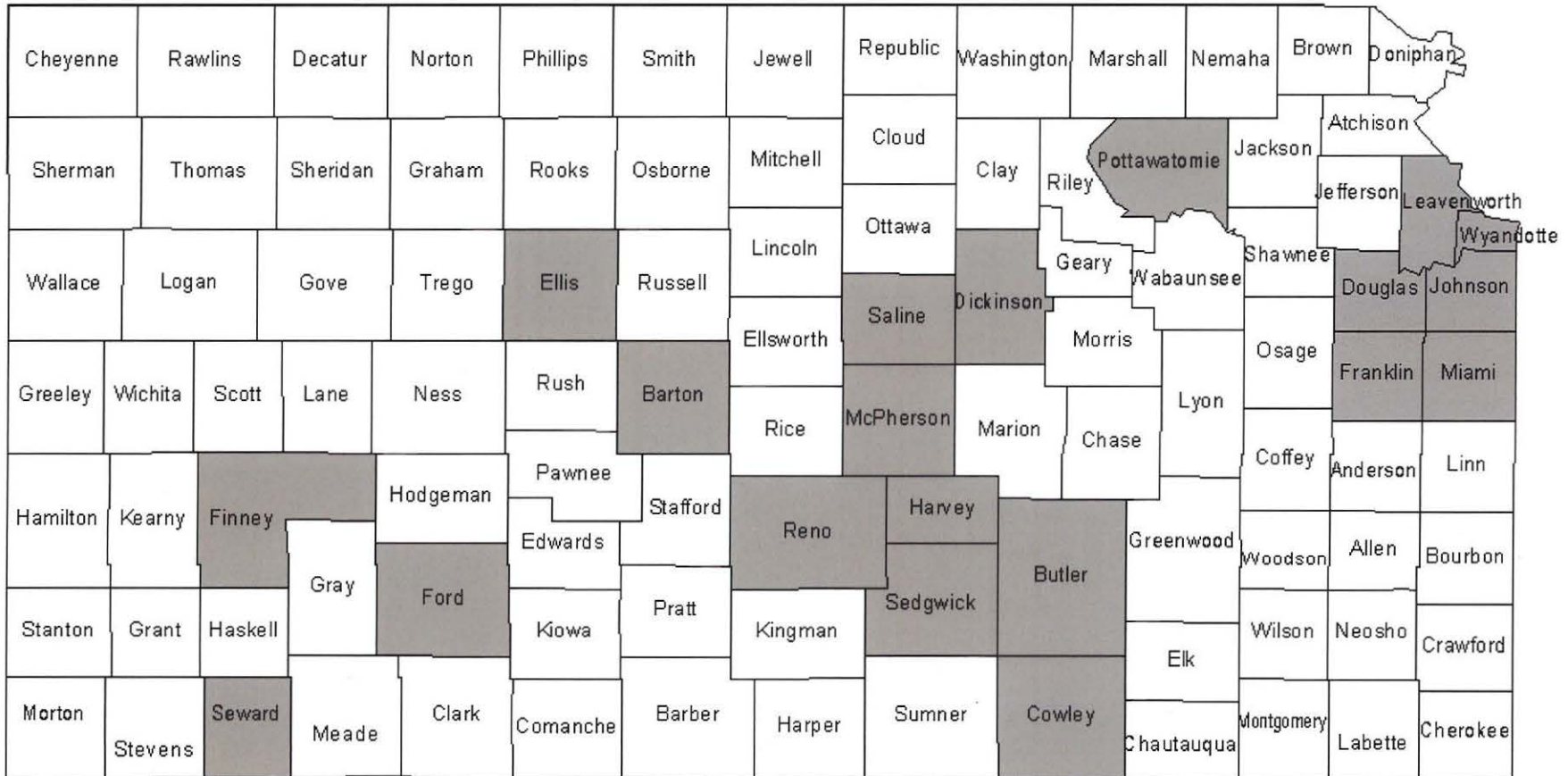
County Commission Size

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- White=3 Commissioners
- Light Gray=5 Commissioners/Supervisors
- Dark Gray=Some Other Size

County Administration



- Light Gray=County Administrator/Manager
- White=None

Road Systems in Kansas

In Kansas there are three types of road systems for roads outside cities. Responsibility for maintaining township roads is based on the type of road system adopted by the county.

Non-county Unit Road System:

The Non-county Unit Road System is also called the County-Township system. In this system the County maintains the main roads, and the townships maintain the local roads. The county maintains all the bridges as well as those culverts with a waterway opening of 25 square feet or larger. Prior to 1917, the townships maintained all the roads, but since 1917 the Non-county Unit Road System is the road system unless the county has elected to use one of the other road systems. There are 35 counties in Kansas with this road system. Funding for the county roads is on a county-wide tax basis with all property in the county having the same mill levy for county roads and bridges. Townships are funded from a mill levy on property within the township, but townships do not collect property tax for property within a city.

County Unit Road System:

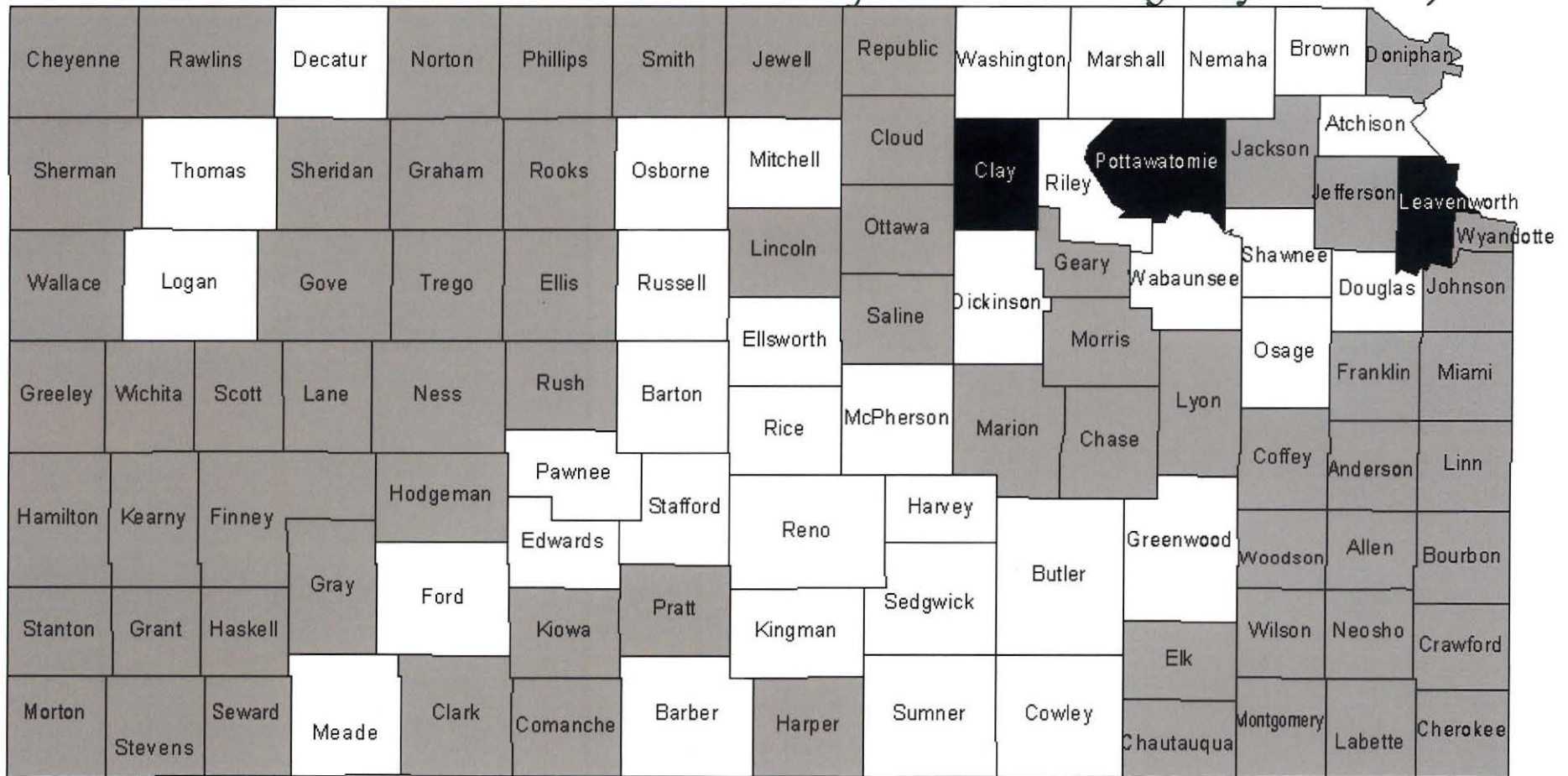
In the County Unit Road System the county is responsible for maintenance of all the public roads outside the cities. The townships have no road maintenance responsibilities. The County Unit Road System was authorized by state law in 1917, but it takes action by the county to take over the township roads. There are 67 counties in Kansas that have this road system. Funding for all the county roads is on a county-wide tax basis with all property in the county having the same mill levy for county roads and bridges. This results in a somewhat higher mill levy for city residents than the County-Township System as the city residents have to pay taxes for maintaining all the county roads, including the old township roads. This road system is authorized by KSA 68-515b.

General County Rural Highway System:

The General County Rural Highway System is similar to the County Unit Road System in that the county maintains all the public roads outside the cities, and the townships have no road maintenance responsibilities. In this system the county has to have two separate funds, one for the main county roads, and one fund for what were previously township roads. The General County Rural Highway System was authorized by state law in 1970. There are just three counties in Kansas with this road system. Funding for the county roads is on a county-wide tax basis with all property in the county having the same mill levy for county roads and bridges. Funding for former township roads are funded from a mill levy on property within the townships, but does not include property tax for property within a city. In this system city residents do not pay taxes for maintenance of the former township roads. The county has to keep track of expenses on their two-road systems, and must ensure that the correct amount is spent on county roads and township roads. This road system is authorized by KSA 68-591.

Road Maintenance Systems (July 2008)

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- White: County-Township System
- Gray: County Unit System
- Black: County Rural System