

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

A Healthier Nation, County by County

2012 *Rankings* **Arkansas**



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Population Health Institute

Translating Research into Policy and Practice

Introduction

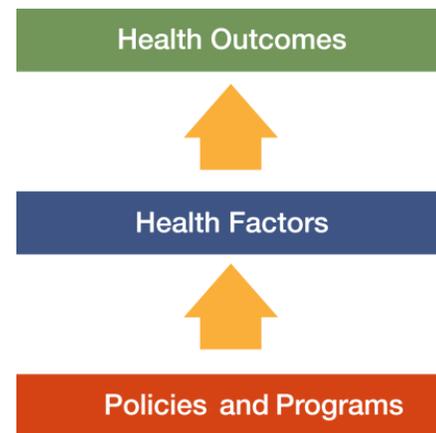
Where we live matters to our health. The health of a community depends on many different factors, including the environment, education and jobs, access to and quality of healthcare, and individual behaviors. We can improve a community's health by implementing effective policies and programs. For example, people who live in communities with smoke-free laws are less likely to smoke or to be exposed to second-hand smoke, which reduces lung cancer risk. In addition, people who live in communities with safe and accessible park and recreation space are more likely to exercise, which reduces heart disease risk.

However, health varies greatly across communities, with some places being much healthier than others. And, until now, there has been no standard method to illustrate what we know about what makes people sick or healthy or a central resource to identify what we can do to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play.

We know that much of what influences our health happens outside of the doctor's office – in our schools, workplaces and neighborhoods. The *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* program provides information on the overall health of your community and provides the tools necessary to create community-based, evidence-informed solutions. Ranking the health of nearly every county across the nation, the *County Health Rankings* illustrate **what we know** when it comes to what is making communities sick or healthy. The *County Health Roadmaps* show **what we can do** to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation collaborates with the University of Wisconsin

Population Health Institute to bring this groundbreaking program to counties and states across the nation.

The *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* program includes the *County Health Rankings* project, launched in 2010, and the newer *Roadmaps* project that mobilizes local communities, national partners and leaders across all sectors to improve health. The program is based on this model of population health improvement:



In this model, health outcomes are measures that describe the current health status of a county. These health outcomes are influenced by a set of health factors. Counties can improve health outcomes by addressing all health factors with effective, evidence-informed policies and programs.

Everyone has a stake in community health. We all need to work together to find solutions. The *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* serve as both a call to action and a needed tool in this effort.

Guide to Our Web Site

To compile the *Rankings*, we selected measures that reflect important aspects of population health that can be improved and are available at the county level across the nation. Visit www.countyhealthrankings.org to learn more.

To get started and see data, enter your county or state name in the search box. Click on the name of a county or measure to see more details. You can: Compare Counties; Download data for your state; Print one or more county

snapshots; or Share information with others via Facebook, Twitter, or Google+. To understand our methods, click on Learn about the Data and Methods. To learn about steps that you can take to improve health in your community, click on the *Roadmaps* tab. The *Roadmaps to Health Action Center* provides tools and resources to help groups working together to create healthier places. The Opportunities section provides information on funding, recognition, and partnership opportunities. The Connections section helps you learn what others are doing.

County Health Roadmaps

The *Rankings* illustrate **what we know** when it comes to making people sick or healthy. The *County Health Rankings* confirm the critical role that factors such as education, jobs, income and the environment play in how healthy people are and how long we live.

This report introduces the *County Health Roadmaps*, a new partnership that mobilizes local communities, national partners and leaders across all sectors to improve health. The *County Health Roadmaps* show **what we can do** to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation collaborates with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute to bring this groundbreaking project to cities, counties and states across the nation.

The *Roadmaps* project includes grants to local coalitions and partnerships among policymakers, business, education, public health, health care, and community organizations; grants to national organizations working to improve health; recognition of communities whose promising efforts have led to better health; and customized technical assistance on strategies to improve health.

Roadmaps to Health Community Grants

The *Roadmaps to Health Community Grants* provide funding for 2 years to state and local efforts among policymakers, business, education, healthcare, public health and community organizations working to create positive policy or systems changes that address the social and economic factors that influence the health of people in their community.

Roadmaps to Health Partner Grants

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is awarding *Roadmaps to Health Partner Grants* to national organizations that are experienced at engaging local partners and leaders and are able to deliver high-quality training and technical assistance, and committed to making communities healthier places to live, learn, work and play. Partner grantees increase awareness about the *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* to their members, affiliates and allies. The first Partner Grant was awarded to United Way Worldwide (UWW) in July 2011.

Roadmaps to Health Prize

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute will award *Roadmaps to Health Prizes* of \$25,000 to up to six communities that are working to become healthier places to live, learn, work and play. The *Roadmaps to Health Prize* is intended not only to honor successful efforts, but also to inspire and stimulate similar activities in other U.S. communities.



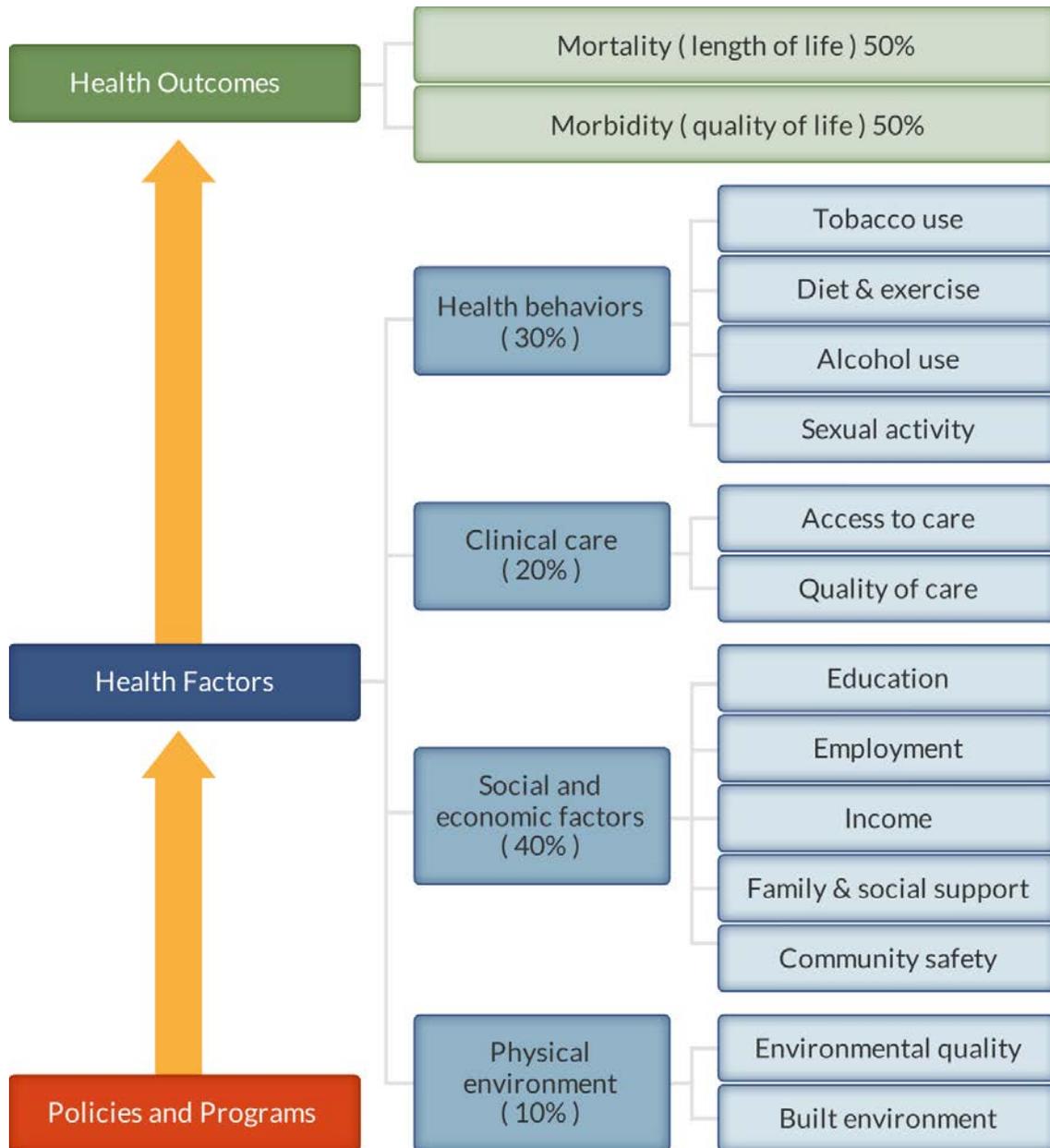
Roadmaps to Health Action Center

The *Roadmaps to Health Action Center*, based at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, provides tools and resources to help groups working to make their communities healthier places. The new Action Center will provide guidance on developing strategies and advocacy efforts to advance pro-health policies, offer opportunities for ongoing learning, and in the summer of 2012, host a searchable database of evidence-informed policies and programs focused on health improvement. Experts provide customized consultation to local communities who have demonstrated the willingness and capacity to address factors that we know influence how healthy a person is, such as education, income and family connectedness.

County Health Rankings

The 2012 *County Health Rankings* report ranks Arkansas counties according to their summary measures of **health outcomes** and **health factors**. Counties also receive a rank for mortality, morbidity, health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment. The figure below depicts the structure of the *Rankings* model; those having high ranks (e.g., 1 or 2) are estimated to be the “healthiest.”

Our summary **health outcomes** rankings are based on an equal weighting of mortality and morbidity measures. The summary **health factors** rankings are based on weighted scores of four types of factors: behavioral, clinical, social and economic, and environmental. The weights for the factors (shown in parentheses in the figure) are based upon a review of the literature and expert input, but represent just one way of combining these factors.

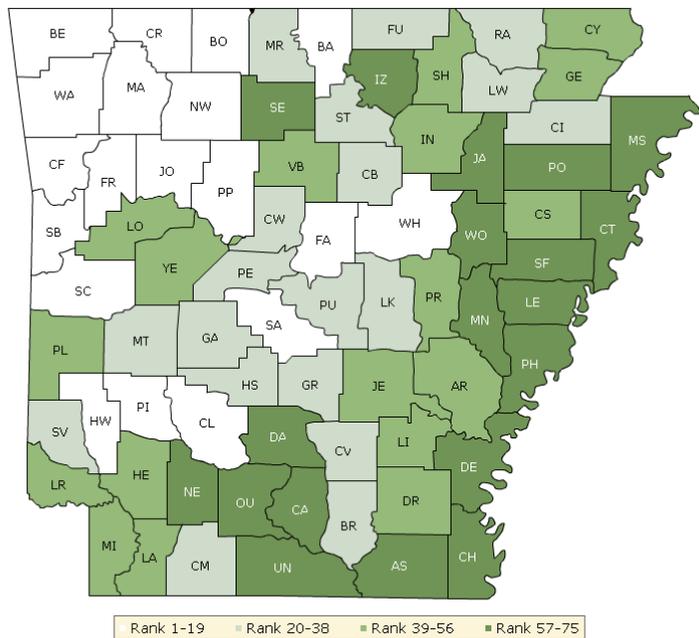


County Health Rankings model ©2012 UWPHI

The maps on this page and the next display Arkansas’s counties divided into groups by health rank. Maps help locate the healthiest and least healthy counties in the state. The lighter colors indicate better performance in the respective

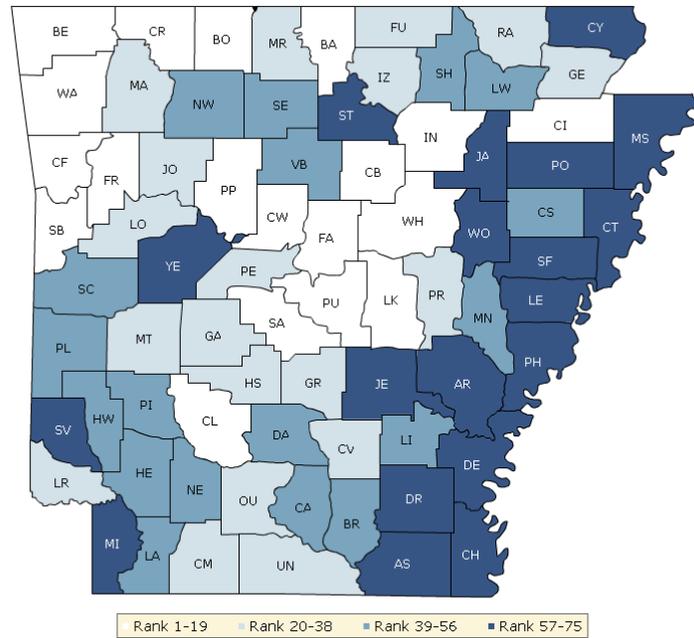
summary rankings. The green map shows the distribution of summary health outcomes. The blue displays the distribution of the summary rank for health factors.

HEALTH OUTCOMES



County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank
Arkansas	55	Dallas	74	Lee	62	Pope	6
Ashley	59	Desha	66	Lincoln	45	Prairie	56
Baxter	12	Drew	53	Little River	51	Pulaski	28
Benton	1	Faulkner	3	Logan	41	Randolph	24
Boone	9	Franklin	10	Lonoke	20	Saline	11
Bradley	36	Fulton	38	Madison	4	Scott	15
Calhoun	57	Garland	37	Marion	34	Searcy	61
Carroll	16	Grant	21	Miller	40	Sebastian	19
Chicot	72	Greene	39	Mississippi	71	Sevier	35
Clark	7	Hempstead	42	Monroe	60	Sharp	47
Clay	52	Hot Spring	30	Montgomery	25	St. Francis	64
Cleburne	29	Howard	18	Nevada	68	Stone	27
Cleveland	22	Independence	49	Newton	13	Union	65
Columbia	32	Izard	63	Ouachita	69	Van Buren	44
Conway	31	Jackson	58	Perry	33	Washington	2
Craighead	23	Jefferson	50	Phillips	75	White	8
Crawford	17	Johnson	14	Pike	5	Woodruff	67
Crittenden	70	Lafayette	48	Poinsett	73	Yell	46
Cross	54	Lawrence	26	Polk	43		

HEALTH FACTORS



County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank
Arkansas	60	Dallas	54	Lee	70	Pope	16
Ashley	67	Desha	68	Lincoln	49	Prairie	26
Baxter	13	Drew	59	Little River	20	Pulaski	10
Benton	1	Faulkner	2	Logan	32	Randolph	25
Boone	6	Franklin	19	Lonoke	11	Saline	3
Bradley	51	Fulton	22	Madison	38	Scott	53
Calhoun	43	Garland	23	Marion	29	Searcy	41
Carroll	15	Grant	35	Miller	61	Sebastian	12
Chicot	74	Greene	37	Mississippi	72	Sevier	58
Clark	5	Hempstead	56	Monroe	50	Sharp	48
Clay	57	Hot Spring	31	Montgomery	34	St. Francis	71
Cleburne	8	Howard	42	Nevada	52	Stone	63
Cleveland	27	Independence	17	Newton	40	Union	28
Columbia	21	Izard	24	Ouachita	33	Van Buren	44
Conway	18	Jackson	62	Perry	36	Washington	4
Craighead	7	Jefferson	64	Phillips	75	White	9
Crawford	14	Johnson	30	Pike	47	Woodruff	65
Crittenden	73	Lafayette	39	Poinsett	69	Yell	66
Cross	55	Lawrence	45	Polk	46		

Summary Health Outcomes & Health Factors Rankings

Counties receive two summary ranks:

- Health Outcomes
- Health Factors

Health outcomes represent how healthy a county is while health factors represent what influences the health of the county.

Each of these ranks represents a weighted summary of a number of measures.

Rank	Health Outcomes	Rank	Health Factors
1	Benton	1	Benton
2	Washington	2	Faulkner
3	Faulkner	3	Saline
4	Madison	4	Washington
5	Pike	5	Clark
6	Pope	6	Boone
7	Clark	7	Craighead
8	White	8	Cleburne
9	Boone	9	White
10	Franklin	10	Pulaski
11	Saline	11	Lonoke
12	Baxter	12	Sebastian
13	Newton	13	Baxter
14	Johnson	14	Crawford
15	Scott	15	Carroll
16	Carroll	16	Pope
17	Crawford	17	Independence
18	Howard	18	Conway
19	Sebastian	19	Franklin
20	Lonoke	20	Little River
21	Grant	21	Columbia
22	Cleveland	22	Fulton
23	Craighead	23	Garland
24	Randolph	24	Izard
25	Montgomery	25	Randolph
26	Lawrence	26	Prairie
27	Stone	27	Cleveland
28	Pulaski	28	Union
29	Cleburne	29	Marion
30	Hot Spring	30	Johnson
31	Conway	31	Hot Spring
32	Columbia	32	Logan
33	Perry	33	Ouachita
34	Marion	34	Montgomery
35	Sevier	35	Grant
36	Bradley	36	Perry
37	Garland	37	Greene
38	Fulton	38	Madison
39	Greene	39	Lafayette
40	Miller	40	Newton
41	Logan	41	Searcy
42	Hempstead	42	Howard

Rank	Health Outcomes	Rank	Health Factors
43	Polk	43	Calhoun
44	Van Buren	44	Van Buren
45	Lincoln	45	Lawrence
46	Yell	46	Polk
47	Sharp	47	Pike
48	Lafayette	48	Sharp
49	Independence	49	Lincoln
50	Jefferson	50	Monroe
51	Little River	51	Bradley
52	Clay	52	Nevada
53	Drew	53	Scott
54	Cross	54	Dallas
55	Arkansas	55	Cross
56	Prairie	56	Hempstead
57	Calhoun	57	Clay
58	Jackson	58	Sevier
59	Ashley	59	Drew
60	Monroe	60	Arkansas
61	Searcy	61	Miller
62	Lee	62	Jackson
63	Izard	63	Stone
64	St. Francis	64	Jefferson
65	Union	65	Woodruff
66	Desha	66	Yell
67	Woodruff	67	Ashley
68	Nevada	68	Desha
69	Ouachita	69	Poinsett
70	Crittenden	70	Lee
71	Mississippi	71	St. Francis
72	Chicot	72	Mississippi
73	Poinsett	73	Crittenden
74	Dallas	74	Chicot
75	Phillips	75	Phillips

2012 County Health Rankings: Measures, Data Sources, and Years of Data

	Measure	Data Source	Years of Data
HEALTH OUTCOMES			
Mortality	Premature death	National Center for Health Statistics	2006-2008
Morbidity	Poor or fair health	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2004-2010
	Poor physical health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2004-2010
	Poor mental health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2004-2010
	Low birthweight	National Center for Health Statistics	2002-2008
HEALTH FACTORS			
HEALTH BEHAVIORS			
Tobacco Use	Adult smoking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2004-2010
Diet and Exercise	Adult obesity	National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	2009
	Physical inactivity	National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	2009
Alcohol Use	Excessive drinking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2004-2010
	Motor vehicle crash death rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2002-2008
Sexual Activity	Sexually transmitted infections	National Center for Hepatitis, HIV, STD and TB Prevention	2009
	Teen birth rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2002-2008
CLINICAL CARE			
Access to Care	Uninsured	Small Area Health Insurance Estimates	2009
	Primary care physicians	Health Resources & Services Administration	2009
Quality of Care	Preventable hospital stays	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2009
	Diabetic screening	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2009
	Mammography screening	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2009
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS			
Education	High school graduation	National Center for Education Statistics and state-specific sources ¹	2008-2010
	Some college	American Community Survey	2006-2010
Employment	Unemployment	Bureau of Labor Statistics	2010
Income	Children in poverty	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates	2010
Family and Social Support	Inadequate social support	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2006-2010
	Children in single-parent households	American Community Survey	2006-2010
Community Safety	Violent crime rate ²	Federal Bureau of Investigation	2007-2009
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT			
Environmental Quality ³	Air pollution-particulate matter days	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	2007
	Air pollution-ozone days	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	2007
Built Environment	Access to recreational facilities	Census County Business Patterns	2009
	Limited access to healthy foods ⁴	U.S. Department of Agriculture	2006
	Fast food restaurants	Census County Business Patterns	2009

¹ NCES used for AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, FL, HI, ID, KY, MT, ND, NJ, OK, SD and TN

² State data source for IL.

³ Not available for AK and HI.

⁴ Access to Healthy Foods (2009) from Census Zip Code Business Patterns for AK and HI.

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