



2013 COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS: MEASURE CHANGES FROM 2012

2012 Measure	2013 Measure	Data Source	Years	Rationale for Change
Health Outcomes				
No Changes				
Health Behaviors				
Motor vehicle crash rates	Motor vehicle crash rates	National Center for Health Statistics	2004-2010	A slight change in the definition of motor vehicle crashes to align with Healthy People 2020 objectives. The new definition excludes crashes that happen off of roadways.
Clinical Care				
No measure	Dentists (2%)	HRSA Area Resource File	2011-2012	Oral health care is a key indicator for the health of communities. Dentist shortages are widespread, and affect the quality of dental care provision in communities
Primary care physicians (5%)	Primary care physicians (3%)	HRSA Area Resource File	2011-2012	The weighting was changed to accommodate the inclusion of dentists. In addition, the definition of primary care physicians was changed slightly to include doctors of osteopathy (D.O.s) and to exclude obstetricians, bringing the definition in alignment with the Health Resources and Services Administration
Social and Economic Factors				
No Changes				
Physical Environment				
Air pollution–particulate matter days	Daily fine particulate matter (2%)	CDC WONDER Environmental data	2008	An updated measure of air quality became available this year. This new measure of average daily fine particulate matter offers several advantages over the prior measures of air quality including recency and precision.
Air pollution–ozone days				
No measure	Drinking water safety (2%)	Safe Drinking Water Information System	FY 2012	Tainted drinking water is estimated to sicken over 1 million Americans each year. This new measure estimates the proportion of a county’s population whose water system has been affected by at least one health-related violation in the past year.

