

2014 County Health Rankings: Measure Changes from 2013

2013 Measure	2014 Measure	Data Source	Years	Rationale for Change
Health Outcomes				
No Changes				
Health Behaviors				
No measure	Food environment index (2%)	USDA Food Environment Atlas, Map the Meal Gap from Feeding America	2010 & 2011	This measure was constructed to contain several of the concepts that were included in the Built Environment in prior years. It not only includes limited access to healthy foods, but also a measure of food insecurity.
No measure	Access to exercise opportunities (1%)	OneSource, Delorme, ESRI, & US Census Tigerline Files	2010 & 2012	This is a measure developed by the <i>Rankings</i> to estimate the total availability of exercise venues in a county including both parks and recreational facilities.
Adult obesity (7.5%)	Adult obesity (5%)			The weighting was changed to accommodate the inclusion of the food environment index and access to exercise opportunities
Physical inactivity (2.5%)	Physical inactivity (2%)			
Motor vehicle crash rates (2.5%)	Alcohol-impaired driving deaths (2.5%)	Fatality Analysis Reporting System	2008-2012	The new measure provides more focus on the alcohol involvement in motor vehicle crashes. Motor vehicle mortality overall is now included in injury deaths
Clinical Care				
No measure	Mental Health Providers (1%)	CMS, National Provider Identification	2013	Mental health treatment is an important part of a complete and effective health care system.
Dentists (2%)	Dentists (1%)			The weighting was changed to accommodate the inclusion of mental health providers

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Social and Economic Factors				
No measure	Injury deaths (2.5%)	CDC WONDER	2006-2010	Keeping communities safe requires that intentional and unintentional injuries be prevented.
Violent crime (5%)	Violent crime (2.5%)			The weighting was changed to accommodate the inclusion of injury deaths
Physical Environment				
No measure	Severe housing problems (2%)	HUD/CHAS	2006-2010	This housing measure was chosen to estimate a wide range of problems that can make a household unhealthy, including overcrowded, high costs and broken or incomplete sanitation.
No measure	Driving alone to work (2%)	American Community Survey	2008-2012	These two measures were added to estimate the effect transit has on a community. A healthy community needs transit options for those who can't or who prefer not to drive alone, and needs to be designed to minimize the time people spend in their cars commuting to work.
No measure	Long commute – driving alone (2%)	American Community Survey	2008-2012	
Access to recreational facilities, Limited access to healthy foods, & Fast food restaurants (2%)				The concepts measured by these were moved into two new measures: Food environment index and access to exercise opportunities.