

2011 California





Introduction

Where we live matters to our health. The health of a community depends on many different factors, including quality of health care, individual behavior, education and jobs, and the environment. We can improve a community's health through programs and policies. For example, people who live in communities with ample park and recreation space are more likely to exercise, which reduces heart disease risk. 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.

The problem is that there are big differences in health across communities, with some places being much healthier than others. And up to now, it has been hard to get a standard way to measure how healthy a county is and see where they can improve.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute are pleased to present the 2011 County Health Rankings, a collection of 50 reports that reflect the overall health of counties in every state across the country. For the second year in a row, counties can get a snapshot of how healthy their residents are by comparing their overall health and the factors that influence their health with other counties in their state. This allows communities to see county-to-county where they are doing well and where they need to improve.

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





All of the County Health Rankings are based upon 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. These health factors and their outcomes may also be affected by community-based programs and policies designed to alter their distribution in the community. Counties can improve health outcomes by addressing all health factors with effective, evidence-based programs and policies.

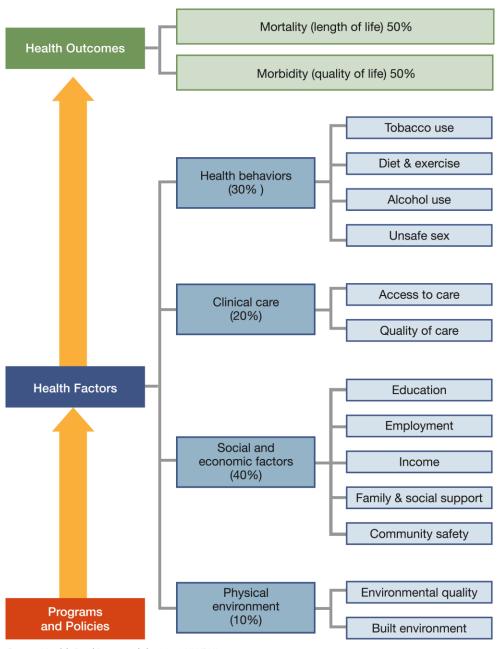
To compile the Rankings, we built on our prior work in Wisconsin, obtained input from a team of expert advisors, and worked closely with staff from the National Center for Health Statistics. Together we selected a number of population health measures based on scientific relevance, importance, and availability of data at the county level.

For a more detailed explanation of our approach, the methods used to compile the Rankings, information on the action steps communities can take to improve their health, and examples of communities in action, see www.countyhealthrankings.org

The Rankings

This report ranks California counties according to their summary measures of health outcomes and health factors, as well as the components used to create each summary measure. The figure below depicts the structure of the Rankings model. Counties receive a rank for each population health component; 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 ©2010 UWPHI

The maps on this page display California's counties divided into groups by health rank. 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.

Maps help locate the healthiest and least healthy counties in the state. The health factors map appears similar to the health outcomes map, showing how health factors and health outcomes are closely related.

HEALTH OUTCOMES



HEALTH FACTORS



Summary Health Outcomes & Health Factors Rankings

Counties receive two summary ranks:

- Health Outcomes
- Health Factors

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

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

Rank 1	Health Outcomes Marin	Rank 1	Health Factors Marin
2	San Benito	2	Placer
3	Placer	3	Santa Clara
4		4	
	Santa Clara		San Mateo
5	San Mateo	5	Nevada
6	Orange	6	San Luis Obispo
7	Santa Cruz	7	San Francisco
8	Colusa	8	El Dorado
9	Yolo	9	Napa
10	El Dorado	10	Santa Cruz
11	Nevada	11	Sonoma
12	Sonoma	12	Orange
13	San Luis Obispo	13	Santa Barbara
14	Napa	14	Ventura
15	Monterey	15	Mono
16	San Diego	16	Contra Costa
17	Ventura	17	Yolo
18	Santa Barbara	18	Alameda
19	Contra Costa	19	Amador
20	Calaveras	20	Inyo
21	Alameda	21	San Diego
22	San Francisco	22	Calaveras
23	Plumas	23	Plumas
24	Amador	24	Tuolumne
25	Sutter	25	San Benito
26	Los Angeles	26	Mariposa
27	Tuolumne	27	Siskiyou
28	Mariposa	28	Humboldt
29	Riverside	29	Solano
30	Sacramento	30	Monterey
31	Solano	31	Butte
32	Glenn	32	Modoc
33	Mendocino	33	Sutter
34	Mono	34	Sacramento
35	Merced	35	Mendocino
36	Lassen	36	Shasta
37	Imperial	37	Lassen
38	San Joaquin	38	Los Angeles
39	Butte	39	Del Norte
40	Kings	40	Colusa
	•		

Rank	Health Outcomes	Rank	Health Factors
41	Stanislaus	41	Trinity
42	Shasta	42	Riverside
43	Fresno	43	Glenn
44	San Bernardino	44	Lake
45	Humboldt	45	Tehama
46	Tulare	46	Madera
47	Modoc	47	Stanislaus
48	Tehama	48	Kings
49	Madera	49	Merced
50	Inyo	50	San Bernardino
51	Kern	51	Fresno
52	Yuba	52	San Joaquin
53	Lake	53	Imperial
54	Siskiyou	54	Yuba
55	Del Norte	55	Tulare
56	Trinity	56	Kern

Not Ranked: Alpine, Sierra

Health Outcomes Rankings

The summary health outcomes ranking is based on measures of mortality and morbidity. Each county's ranks for mortality and morbidity are displayed here. The mortality rank, representing length of life, is based on a measure of premature death: the years of potential life lost prior to age 75.

The morbidity rank is based on measures that represent health-related quality of life and birth outcomes. We combine four morbidity measures: self-reported fair or poor health, poor physical health days, poor mental health days, and the percent of births with low birthweight.

Rank	Mortality	Mauhiditu
1	Marin	Morbidity Colusa
2	Santa Clara	San Benito
3	San Mateo	Marin
4	Orange	Placer
5	San Benito	El Dorado
6	Placer	Yolo
7	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz
8	Monterey	Tuolumne
9	Ventura	Nevada
10	Sonoma	Plumas
11		San Luis Obispo
12	Napa Contra Costa	Glenn
13	Santa Barbara	
		Mendocino
14	San Diego	Orange
15	Yolo	Amador
16	San Francisco	Mariposa
17	San Luis Obispo	San Mateo
18	Alameda	Calaveras
19	El Dorado	Santa Clara
20	Nevada	Sonoma
21	Los Angeles	Butte
22	Mono	Napa
23	Colusa	Shasta
24	Calaveras	San Diego
25	Sutter	Monterey
26	Amador	Sutter
27	Riverside	Modoc
28	Imperial	Humboldt
29	Solano	Ventura
30	Sacramento	Santa Barbara
31	Plumas	Alameda
32	Madera	Lassen
33	Merced	Contra Costa
34	San Joaquin	Riverside
35	San Bernardino	San Francisco
36	Fresno	Sacramento
37	Stanislaus	Kings
38	Mariposa	Solano
39	Kings	Merced
40	Lassen	San Joaquin

Rank	Mortality	Morbidity
41	Tuolumne	Yuba
42	Tehama	Stanislaus
43	Tulare	Lake
44	Glenn	Inyo
45	Kern	Tulare
46	Butte	Fresno
47	Mendocino	Del Norte
48	Shasta	Imperial
49	Humboldt	San Bernardino
50	Inyo	Trinity
51	Modoc	Los Angeles
52	Yuba	Tehama
53	Siskiyou	Siskiyou
54	Lake	Kern
55	Del Norte	Mono
56	Trinity	Madera

Health Factors Rankings

The summary health factors ranking is based on four factors: health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic, and physical environment factors. In turn, each of these factors is based on several measures. Health behaviors include measures of smoking, diet and exercise, alcohol use, and risky sex behavior. Clinical

care includes measures of access to care and quality of care. Social and economic factors include measures of education, employment, income, family and social support, and community safety. The physical environment includes measures of environmental quality and the built environment.

Rank	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Social & Economic Factors	Physical Environment
1	Santa Cruz	Marin	Placer	Marin
2	Marin	Inyo	Marin	Inyo
3	Placer	San Francisco	Nevada	Tuolumne
4	Santa Clara	Placer	Santa Clara	Plumas
5	Mono	San Mateo	El Dorado	Santa Cruz
6	Santa Barbara	Sonoma	San Mateo	San Francisco
7	San Francisco	Yolo	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara
8	Orange	Tuolumne	Ventura	San Mateo
9	Napa	Santa Clara	Orange	Contra Costa
10	San Benito	El Dorado	Napa	Mendocino
11	San Mateo	Amador	Contra Costa	Santa Clara
12	Alameda	San Luis Obispo	Sonoma	Sonoma
13	El Dorado	Ventura	Amador	San Luis Obispo
14	San Luis Obispo	Shasta	San Diego	Colusa
15	Nevada	Nevada	Mono	Ventura
16	Sonoma	Contra Costa	Santa Barbara	Alameda
17	Yolo	Napa	Santa Cruz	Mono
18	Los Angeles	Alameda	Yolo	Monterey
19	San Diego	Siskiyou	San Francisco	Siskiyou
20	Contra Costa	Del Norte	Calaveras	Napa
21	Plumas	Mendocino	Mariposa	Nevada
22	Monterey	Humboldt	Tuolumne	Orange
23	Ventura	Santa Barbara	Solano	Calaveras
24	Mariposa	Santa Cruz	Alameda	Sutter
25	Sutter	Plumas	Humboldt	Amador
26	Modoc	Sacramento	Inyo	Lake
27	Inyo	Orange	Siskiyou	San Diego
28	Calaveras	San Diego	Butte	Lassen
29	Amador	Calaveras	Riverside	Imperial
30	Trinity	Sutter	Plumas	San Benito
31	Colusa	Lake	Sacramento	Placer
32	Imperial	Modoc	San Benito	Yolo
33	Riverside	Butte	Shasta	Madera
34	Butte	Mono	Monterey	Humboldt
35	Mendocino	Solano	Modoc	Glenn
36	Lassen	Mariposa	Glenn	Solano
37	Sacramento	Monterey	Stanislaus	Modoc
38	Kings	Fresno	Sutter	Shasta
39	Siskiyou	Lassen	Lassen	Butte
40	Humboldt	Merced	San Bernardino	Del Norte

Rank	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Social & Economic Factors	Physical Environment
41	Solano	Trinity	Mendocino	Trinity
42	Madera	Tehama	Los Angeles	Sacramento
43	Glenn	Madera	Tehama	San Joaquin
44	Del Norte	San Benito	Colusa	Stanislaus
45	Tehama	San Joaquin	Kings	El Dorado
46	Merced	Imperial	Lake	Yuba
47	Fresno	Tulare	Del Norte	Merced
48	San Bernardino	Stanislaus	Madera	Kings
49	Tuolumne	Kern	Trinity	Mariposa
50	Stanislaus	Yuba	Yuba	Los Angeles
51	San Joaquin	Kings	Merced	Tehama
52	Lake	Glenn	San Joaquin	Tulare
53	Shasta	Los Angeles	Kern	Fresno
54	Yuba	Riverside	Fresno	Riverside
55	Kern	Colusa	Tulare	San Bernardino
56	Tulare	San Bernardino	Imperial	Kern

2011 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	2005-2007
Morbidity	Poor or fair health	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
	Poor physical health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
	Poor mental health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
	Low birthweight	National Center for Health Statistics	2001-2007
HEALTH FACTORS			
HEALTH BEHAVIORS			
Tobacco	Adult smoking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
Diet and Exercise	Adult obesity	National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	2008
Alcohol Use	Excessive drinking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
	Motor vehicle crash death rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2001-2007
High Risk Sexual Behavior	Sexually transmitted infections	National Center for Hepatitis, HIV, STD and TB Prevention	2008
	Teen birth rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2001-2007
CLINICAL CARE			
Access to Care	Uninsured adults	Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, U.S. Census	2007
	Primary care providers	Health Resources & Services Administration	2008
Quality of Care	Preventable hospital stays	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2006-2007
	Diabetic screening	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2006-2007
	Mammography screening	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2006-2007
SOCIOECONOMIC FAC	TORS		
Education	High school graduation	National Center for Education Statistics ¹	2006-2007
	Some college	American Community Survey	2005-2009
Employment	Unemployment	Bureau of Labor Statistics	2009
Income	Children in poverty	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census	2008
Family and Social Support	Inadequate social support	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2009
	Single-parent households	American Community Survey	2005-2009
Community Safety	Violent crime ²	Uniform Crime Reporting, Federal Bureau of Investigation	2006-2008
PHYSICAL ENVIRONME	ENT		
Air Quality ³	Air pollution-particulate matter days	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency / Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	2006
	Air pollution-ozone days	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency / Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	2006
Built Environment	Access to healthy foods	Census Zip Code Business Patterns	2008
	Access to recreational facilities	Census County Business Patterns	2008

¹ State data sources for KY, NH, NC, PA, SC, and UT (2008-2009).

² Homicide rate (2001-2007) from National Center for Health Statistics for AK, AZ, AR, CO, CT, GA, ID, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MN, MS, MT, NE, NH, NM, NC, ND, OH, SD, UT, and WV. State data source for IL.

³ Not available for AK and HI.

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