



County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

A Healthier Nation, County by County

2013 *Rankings* **Arkansas**



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. You can also take advantage of the Using the *Rankings* Data guide to help you explore the data and figure out more about what is driving your community's health. To learn about what you can do to improve health in your community, visit the *Roadmaps to Health* Action Center. Finally, you can learn what others are doing by reading Communities Stories and visiting the Project Showcase.

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.

The *County Health Roadmaps* 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 (RWJF) collaborates with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute (UWPHI) 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 guidance on strategies to improve health.

Roadmaps to Health Community Grants

The *Roadmaps to Health Community Grants* provide funding for 2 years to thirty 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

RWJF 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. As of February 2013, RWJF has awarded partner grants to United Way Worldwide, National Business Coalition on Health, and National Association of Counties.

RWJF Roadmaps to Health Prize

In February 2013, RWJF awarded the first *RWJF Roadmaps to Health Prizes* of \$25,000 to six communities that are working to become healthier places to live, learn, work and play. The *RWJF 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.



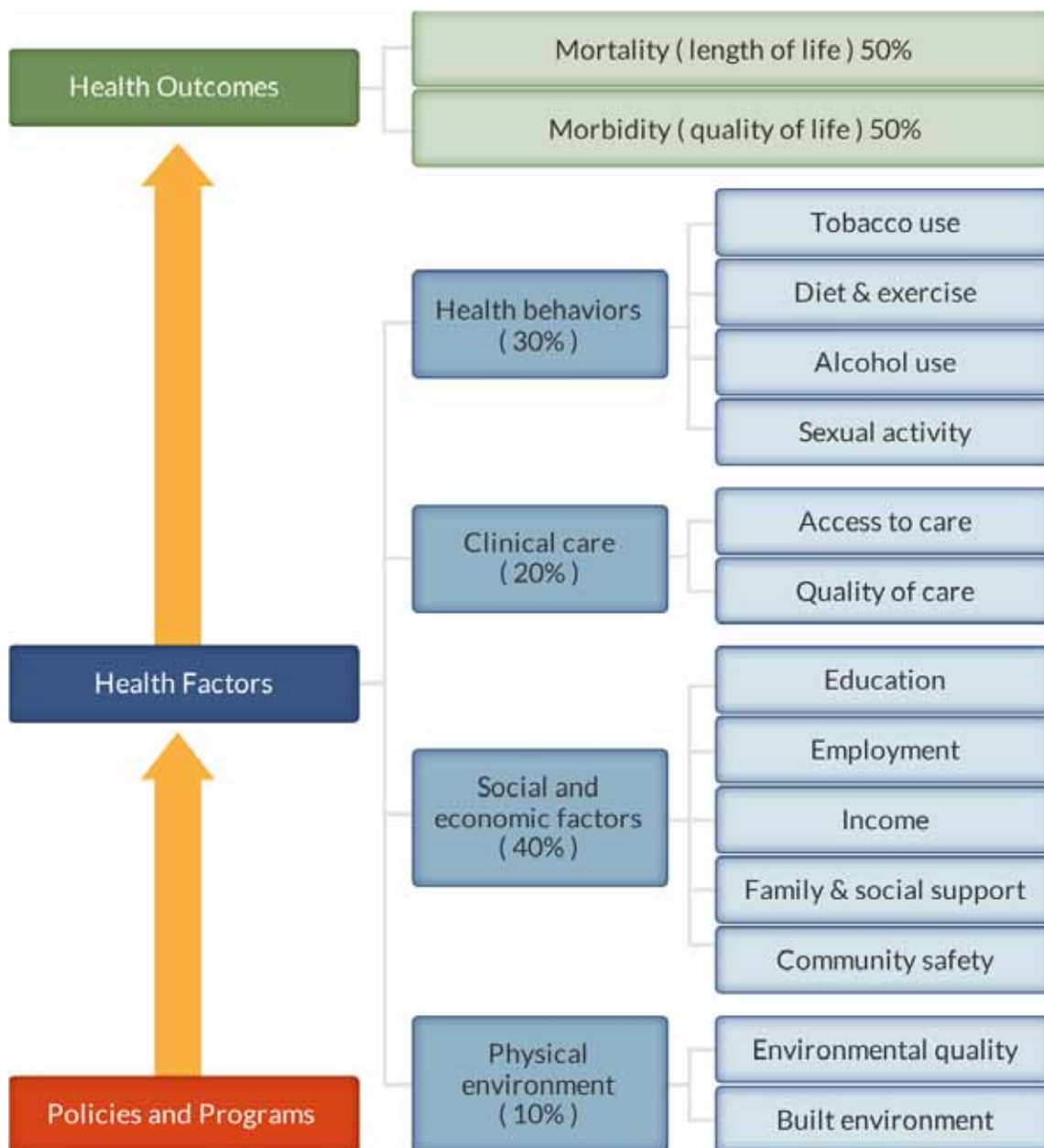
Roadmaps to Health Action Center

The *Roadmaps to Health Action Center*, based at UWPHI, provides tools and guidance to help groups working to make their communities healthier places. The Action Center website provides guidance on developing strategies and advocacy efforts to advance pro-health policies, opportunities for ongoing learning, and a searchable database of evidence-informed policies and programs focused on health improvement: *What Works for Health*. Action Center staff provide customized consultation via email and telephone to those seeking more information about how to improve health. Coaching, including possible on-site visits, is also available for 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 2013 *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.

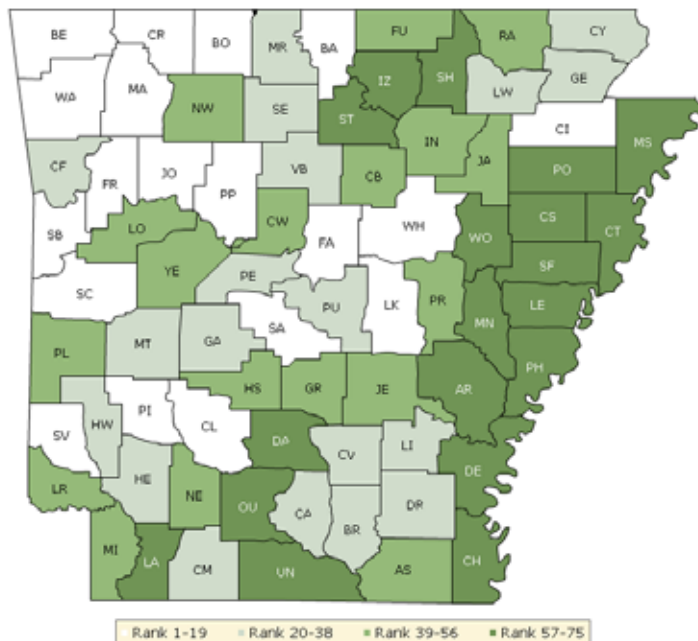


County Health Rankings model ©2012 UWPHI

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

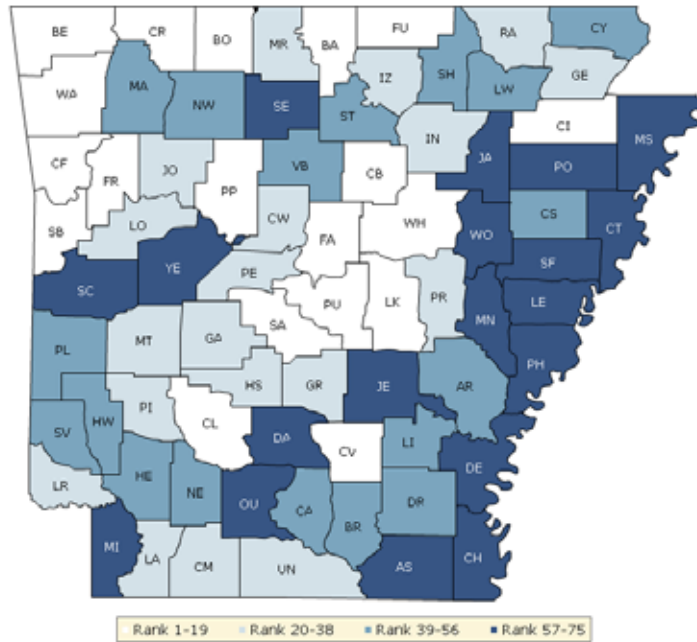
summary rankings. The green map shows the distribution of summary health outcomes. The blue displays the distribution of the summary rank for health factors.

HEALTH OUTCOMES



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

HEALTH FACTORS



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

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

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

2013 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	2008-2010
Morbidity	Poor or fair health	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2011
	Poor physical health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2011
	Poor mental health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2011
	Low birthweight	National Center for Health Statistics	2004-2010
HEALTH FACTORS			
HEALTH BEHAVIORS			
Tobacco Use	Adult smoking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2011
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	2005-2011
	Motor vehicle crash death rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2004-2010
Sexual Activity	Sexually transmitted infections	National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB prevention	2010
	Teen birth rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2004-2010
CLINICAL CARE			
Access to Care	Uninsured	Small Area Health Insurance Estimates	2010
	Primary care physicians	HRSA Area Resource File	2011-2012
	Dentists	HRSA Area Resource File	2011-2012
Quality of Care	Preventable hospital stays	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2010
	Diabetic screening	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2010
	Mammography screening	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2010
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS			
Education	High school graduation	Primarily state-specific sources, supplemented with National Center for Education Statistics	State-specific
	Some college	American Community Survey	2007-2011
Employment	Unemployment	Bureau of Labor Statistics	2011
Income	Children in poverty	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates	2011
Family and Social Support	Inadequate social support	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2010
	Children in single-parent households	American Community Survey	2007-2011
Community Safety	Violent crime rate	Federal Bureau of Investigation	2008-2010
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT			
Environmental Quality	Daily fine particulate matter ¹	CDC WONDER Environmental data	2008
	Drinking water safety	Safe Drinking Water Information System	FY 2012
Built Environment	Access to recreational facilities	Census County Business Patterns	2010
	Limited access to healthy foods	USDA Food Environment Atlas	2012
	Fast food restaurants	Census County Business Patterns	2010

¹ Not available for AK and HI.

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