



# County Health Rankings

Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health

2010

**Mississippi**



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

**Population Health Institute**

*Translating Research into Policy and Practice*

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## 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.

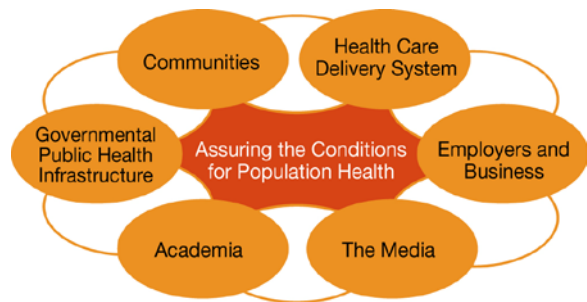
The problem is that there are big differences in health across communities, with some places being much healthier than others. And up to now, it has been hard to get a standard way to measure how healthy a county is and see where they can improve.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute are pleased to present the 2010 *County Health Rankings*, a collection of 50 reports that reflect the overall health of counties in every state across the country. For the first time, 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 will allow them 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.



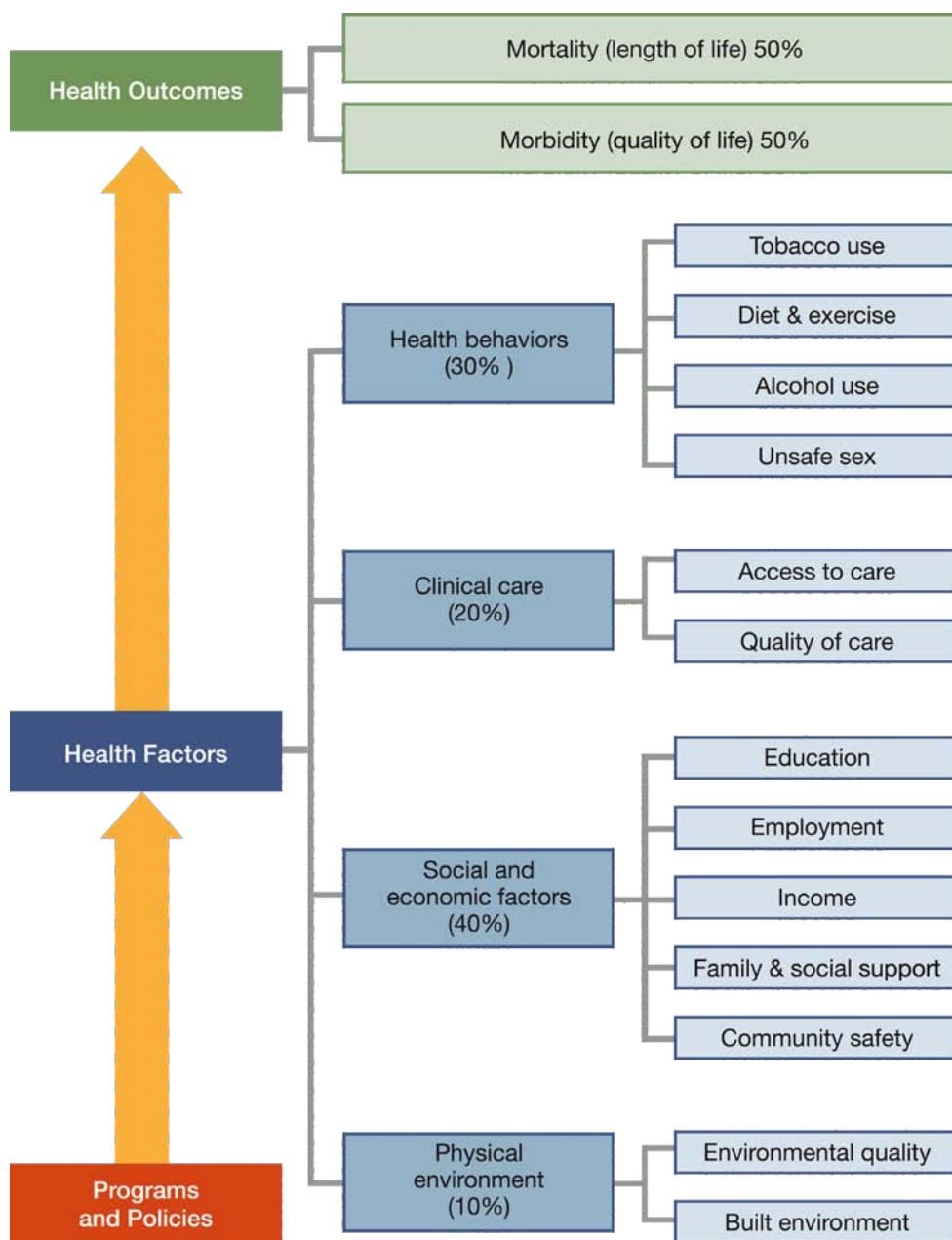
Institute of Medicine, 2002

To compile the *Rankings*, we built on our prior work in Wisconsin, worked closely with staff from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Dartmouth College, and obtained input from a team of expert advisors. 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 the choice of measures, see [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org).

## The Rankings

This report ranks Mississippi 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.

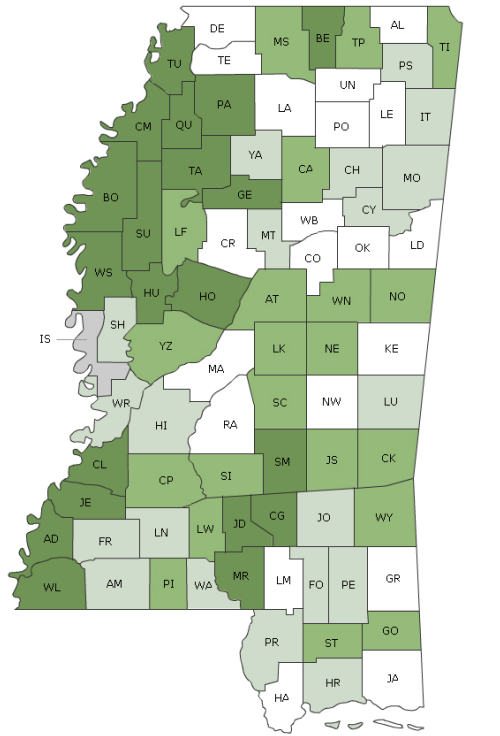


County Health Rankings model ©2010 UWPHI

The maps on this page display Mississippi'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.

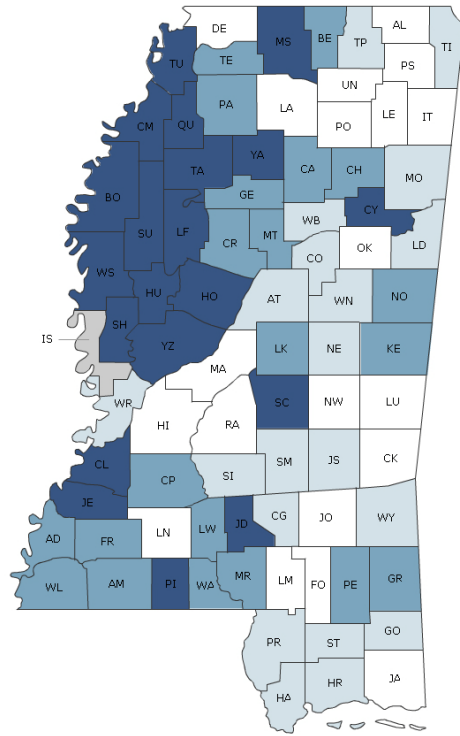
Maps help locate the healthiest and least healthy counties in the state. The health factors map appears similar to the health outcomes map, showing how health factors and health outcomes are closely related.

### HEALTH OUTCOMES



Rank 1-20 Rank 21-40 Rank 41-61 Rank 62-81 Not Ranked

### HEALTH FACTORS



Rank 1-20 Rank 21-40 Rank 41-61 Rank 62-81 Not Ranked

## 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	Health Outcomes	Rank	Health Factors
1	DeSoto	1	Madison
2	Rankin	2	Lamar
3	Lamar	3	Rankin
4	Lafayette	4	Lafayette
5	Oktibbeha	5	Oktibbeha
6	Pontotoc	6	Lee
7	Madison	7	Itawamba
8	Lowndes	8	DeSoto
9	Choctaw	9	Lincoln
10	Greene	10	Alcorn
11	Newton	11	Forrest
12	Lee	12	Hinds
13	Hancock	13	Jones
14	Jackson	14	Jackson
15	Union	15	Lauderdale
16	Alcorn	16	Newton
17	Kemper	17	Union
18	Carroll	18	Pontotoc
19	Webster	19	Clarke
20	Tate	20	Prentiss
21	Lincoln	21	Winston
22	Warren	22	Lowndes
23	Monroe	23	Smith
24	Montgomery	24	Hancock
25	Sharkey	25	George
26	Prentiss	26	Neshoba
27	Itawamba	27	Stone
28	Pearl River	28	Simpson
29	Harrison	29	Choctaw
30	Jones	30	Pearl River
31	Perry	31	Webster
32	Hinds	32	Monroe
33	Walthall	33	Covington
34	Clay	34	Wayne
35	Chickasaw	35	Warren
36	Forrest	36	Harrison
37	Yalobusha	37	Tishomingo
38	Amite	38	Tippah
39	Lauderdale	39	Attala
40	Franklin	40	Jasper

Rank	Health Outcomes	Rank	Health Factors
41	Yazoo	41	Leake
42	Wayne	42	Copiah
43	Clarke	43	Montgomery
44	Calhoun	44	Greene
45	Tippah	45	Franklin
46	Simpson	46	Adams
47	Noxubee	47	Walthall
48	Lawrence	48	Wilkinson
49	George	49	Lawrence
50	Tishomingo	50	Amite
51	Marshall	51	Noxubee
52	Scott	52	Chickasaw
53	Neshoba	53	Tate
54	Pike	54	Panola
55	Winston	55	Carroll
56	Jasper	56	Calhoun
57	Leake	57	Benton
58	Attala	58	Grenada
59	Stone	59	Perry
60	Copiah	60	Kemper
61	Leflore	61	Marion
62	Covington	62	Claiborne
63	Washington	63	Scott
64	Adams	64	Pike
65	Smith	65	Yalobusha
66	Panola	66	Clay
67	Bolivar	67	Bolivar
68	Wilkinson	68	Marshall
69	Tunica	69	Jefferson Davis
70	Claiborne	70	Tallahatchie
71	Coahoma	71	Yazoo
72	Sunflower	72	Washington
73	Jefferson	73	Leflore
74	Benton	74	Sharkey
75	Humphreys	75	Sunflower
76	Grenada	76	Quitman
77	Jefferson Davis	77	Tunica
78	Quitman	78	Jefferson
79	Marion	79	Coahoma
80	Tallahatchie	80	Humphreys
81	Holmes	81	Holmes

**Not Ranked:** Issaquena

## 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	Morbidity
1	Rankin	DeSoto
2	Pontotoc	Madison
3	DeSoto	Lamar
4	Lafayette	Rankin
5	Oktibbeha	Oktibbeha
6	Lamar	Lafayette
7	Kemper	Jackson
8	Lowndes	Choctaw
9	Newton	Sharkey
10	Monroe	Lee
11	Greene	Hancock
12	Tippah	Carroll
13	Choctaw	Jones
14	Franklin	Warren
15	Amite	Tate
16	Union	Greene
17	Webster	Lowndes
18	Alcorn	Yalobusha
19	Lincoln	Itawamba
20	Hancock	Prentiss
21	Lee	Alcorn
22	Montgomery	Humphreys
23	Chickasaw	Lauderdale
24	Wayne	Harrison
25	Clarke	Union
26	Carroll	Pearl River
27	Perry	Coahoma
28	Tate	Webster
29	Jackson	Tunica
30	Warren	Newton
31	Clay	Pontotoc
32	Prentiss	Montgomery
33	Hinds	Yazoo
34	Walthall	Neshoba
35	Forrest	Lincoln
36	Noxubee	Quitman
37	Pearl River	Hinds
38	Simpson	Calhoun
39	Itawamba	Leake
40	Madison	Walthall

Rank	Mortality	Morbidity
41	Sharkey	George
42	Harrison	Washington
43	Copiah	Bolivar
44	Covington	Forrest
45	Attala	Panola
46	Scott	Marshall
47	Pike	Perry
48	Lawrence	Stone
49	Tishomingo	Clay
50	Jones	Smith
51	Adams	Winston
52	Jasper	Lawrence
53	Yalobusha	Tishomingo
54	Lauderdale	Monroe
55	Calhoun	Leflore
56	Yazoo	Chickasaw
57	Marshall	Scott
58	George	Simpson
59	Winston	Jasper
60	Leflore	Pike
61	Neshoba	Kemper
62	Leake	Marion
63	Stone	Noxubee
64	Wilkinson	Holmes
65	Smith	Sunflower
66	Claiborne	Wilkinson
67	Jefferson	Amite
68	Washington	Wayne
69	Tallahatchie	Clarke
70	Panola	Attala
71	Benton	Franklin
72	Bolivar	Copiah
73	Jefferson Davis	Benton
74	Grenada	Adams
75	Sunflower	Covington
76	Tunica	Grenada
77	Coahoma	Claiborne
78	Marion	Jefferson Davis
79	Humphreys	Jefferson
80	Holmes	Tippah
81	Quitman	Tallahatchie

## 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	Rank	Clinical Care	Rank	Social & Economic Factors	Rank	Physical Environment
1	Madison	1	Madison	1	Lafayette	1	George
2	Oktibbeha	2	Hinds	2	Rankin	2	Walthall
3	Clarke	3	Lee	3	Madison	2	Winston
4	Noxubee	4	Lauderdale	4	Lamar	4	Wilkinson
5	Choctaw	5	Lamar	5	DeSoto	5	Covington
6	Rankin	6	Humphreys	6	Oktibbeha	5	Neshoba
7	Lafayette	7	Lowndes	7	Jackson	7	Greene
8	Lee	8	Rankin	8	Lincoln	8	Choctaw
9	Lamar	9	Forrest	9	Harrison	8	Stone
10	Hinds	10	Leflore	10	Smith	10	Alcorn
11	Itawamba	11	Holmes	11	Union	11	Jefferson
12	Wayne	12	Bolivar	12	Pontotoc	12	Tishomingo
13	Alcorn	13	Jackson	13	Itawamba	13	Simpson
14	Webster	14	Washington	14	Hancock	14	Lawrence
15	Lauderdale	15	Winston	15	Lee	14	Montgomery
16	Newton	16	Attala	16	Pearl River	14	Scott
17	Smith	17	Coahoma	17	Jones	14	Webster
18	Simpson	18	Copiah	18	Alcorn	18	Itawamba
19	Prentiss	19	Warren	19	Newton	19	Franklin
20	Forrest	20	Wilkinson	20	George	20	Smith
21	Hancock	21	Monroe	21	Tate	21	Carroll
22	DeSoto	22	Tallahatchie	22	Forrest	22	Pearl River
23	Tippah	23	Adams	23	Covington	23	Rankin
24	Jones	24	DeSoto	24	Neshoba	24	Lincoln
25	Clay	25	Lincoln	25	Lawrence	25	Calhoun
26	Pontotoc	26	Benton	26	Webster	26	Lamar
27	Lincoln	27	Jones	27	Stone	27	Perry
28	Lowndes	28	Clay	28	Prentiss	28	Amite
29	Union	29	Itawamba	29	Lowndes	29	Chickasaw
30	Tishomingo	30	Prentiss	30	Greene	30	Benton
31	Attala	31	Harrison	31	Simpson	31	Noxubee
32	Monroe	32	Sunflower	32	Leake	32	Marion
33	Harrison	33	Tunica	33	Franklin	33	Prentiss
34	Jasper	34	Lafayette	34	Warren	33	Tunica
35	Chickasaw	35	Panola	35	Scott	35	Copiah
36	Jackson	36	Pike	36	Lauderdale	36	Clarke
37	George	37	Oktibbeha	37	Clarke	37	Jefferson Davis
38	Winston	38	Union	38	Copiah	38	Tippah
39	Claiborne	39	Marshall	39	Tishomingo	39	Newton
40	Adams	40	Montgomery	40	Winston	40	Jasper

Rank	Health Behaviors	Rank	Clinical Care	Rank	Social & Economic Factors	Rank	Physical Environment
41	Leake	41	Stone	41	Perry	41	Holmes
42	Montgomery	42	Pontotoc	42	Walthall	42	Claiborne
43	Yazoo	43	Yazoo	43	Monroe	43	Wayne
44	Amite	44	Neshoba	44	Wayne	44	Leake
45	Stone	45	Alcorn	45	Jasper	45	Madison
46	Yalobusha	46	Noxubee	46	Kemper	46	Attala
47	Bolivar	47	Grenada	47	Marion	47	Jones
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67	Carroll	67	Pearl River	67	Jefferson Davis	67	Lafayette
68	Pike	68	Calhoun	68	Sharkey	68	Sunflower
69	Benton	69	Franklin	69	Bolivar	69	Leflore
70	Copiah	70	Claiborne	70	Yazoo	70	Lowndes
71	Quitman	71	Wayne	71	Tunica	71	Washington
72	Marion	72	Tishomingo	72	Washington	72	Coahoma
73	Tallahatchie	73	Simpson	73	Quitman	73	Jackson
74	Scott	74	Lawrence	74	Noxubee	74	Lauderdale
75	Coahoma	75	George	75	Jefferson	75	Sharkey
76	Tate	76	Scott	76	Sunflower	76	Humphreys
77	Marshall	77	Walthall	77	Clay	77	Hancock
78	Jefferson	78	Greene	78	Leflore	78	Bolivar
79	Tunica	79	Smith	79	Humphreys	79	Lee
80	Humphreys	80	Webster	80	Coahoma	80	DeSoto
81	Holmes	81	Perry	81	Holmes	81	Harrison

## 2010 County Health Rankings: Measures, Data Sources, and Years of Data

	Measure	Data Source	Years of Data
<b>HEALTH OUTCOMES</b>			
<b>Mortality</b>	Premature death	National Center for Health Statistics	2004-2006
<b>Morbidity</b>	Poor or fair health	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2002-2008
	Poor physical health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2002-2008
	Poor mental health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2002-2008
	Low birthweight	National Center for Health Statistics	2000-2006
<b>HEALTH FACTORS</b>			
<b>HEALTH BEHAVIORS</b>			
<b>Tobacco</b>	Adult smoking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2002-2008
<b>Diet and Exercise</b>	Adult obesity	National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	2006-2008
<b>Alcohol Use</b>	Binge drinking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2002-2008
	Motor vehicle crash death rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2000-2006
<b>High Risk Sexual Behavior</b>	Chlamydia rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2006
	Teen birth rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2000-2006
<b>CLINICAL CARE</b>			
<b>Access to Care</b>	Uninsured adults	Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, U.S. Census	2005
	Primary care provider rate	Health Resources & Services Administration	2006
<b>Quality of Care</b>	Preventable hospital stays	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2005-2006
	Diabetic screening	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2003-2006
	Hospice use	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2001-2005
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS</b>			
<b>Education</b>	High school graduation	National Center for Education Statistics <sup>1</sup>	2005-2006
	College degrees	U.S. Census/American Community Survey	2000/2005-2007
<b>Employment</b>	Unemployment	Bureau of Labor Statistics	2008
<b>Income</b>	Children in poverty	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census	2007
	Income inequality	U.S. Census/American Community Survey <sup>2</sup>	2000/2005-2007
<b>Family and Social Support</b>	Inadequate social support	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2008
	Single-parent households	U.S. Census/American Community Survey	2000/2005-2007
<b>Community Safety</b>	Violent crime <sup>3</sup>	Uniform Crime Reporting, Federal Bureau of Investigation	2005-2007
<b>PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT</b>			
<b>Air Quality</b> <sup>4</sup>	Air pollution-particulate matter days	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency / Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	2005
	Air pollution-ozone days	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency / Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	2005
<b>Built Environment</b>	Access to healthy foods	Census Zip Code Business Patterns	2006
	Liquor store density	Census County Business Patterns	2006

<sup>1</sup> State data sources for KY, NH, NC, PA, SC, and UT (2007-2008).

<sup>2</sup> Income inequality estimates for 2000 were calculated by Mark L. Burkey, North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, [www.ncat.edu/~burkeym/Gini.htm](http://www.ncat.edu/~burkeym/Gini.htm).

<sup>3</sup> Homicide rate (2000-2006) 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.

<sup>4</sup> Not available for AK and HI.

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