

Q&A'S FROM COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS 2017: MEASURES AND NEW FEATURES WEBINAR

Have you considered measures for these health factors or outcomes?

- Suicide rates
- Rates of homelessness among youth and adults
- Youth in foster care or other out of home care
- Incarceration levels, and the rates of children with incarcerated parents
- Adverse childhood experiences
- Amount and frequency of water consumed
- Screen time minutes per day
- Per capita public health funding
- Distracted driving rates

We currently do not have county-level information for these factors or outcomes. However, we welcome input from others exploring data sources and measures for these issues - please email us info@countyhealthrankings.org

Are BRFSS questions asked every year or are some questions removed every other year?

Many BRFSS measures we include are available annually, however, some are asked at a different frequency such as "insufficient sleep". You can check out the years of data available for BRFSS measures on our website.

Are you excluding accidental firearm deaths, as they are not homicides nor suicides?

Firearm fatalities will capture all deaths due to firearm (intentional and unintentional)

If your county's population is under 100,000, will you get data on firearm fatalities?

Yes, data is provided as a rate. So even if your county has less than 100,000 we still report the data. We report the rate per 100,000 to enable comparison across counties. If your county had 4 firearm deaths per 50,000 people, that would equal 8 firearm deaths per 100,000 people.

Is there a source for programs that compare similar counties?

If you would like to compare specific counties from different states, please visit our Compare Counties tool by selecting a state and then the "Compare Counties" tab. Users should refer to our guidelines for comparing measures across states to find the differences that occur for some measures (such as high school graduation rates and violent crime).

Will there be more data points when you provide the trend graphs for a measure?

In our trend graphs, we include as many data points as we have available, often times going back ten years. Starting this year, you can see all the data points in a table with the trend graphs. In addition, we provide national datasets with all the data included in the trend graphs.

Why is physical environment weighted so low? Those seem highly modifiable and contribute greatly to health status.

All of the health factors that we include in model are extremely important predictors of health in communities. Our weights were determined using a mixture of literature reviews, expert opinion and statistical analysis. If you would like to learn more about our methods, please read our [paper](#) on weighting.