

COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS 2011: CODEBOOK FOR ANALYTIC DATASETS

The SAS and CSV files provided at <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/rankings/data> contain the measure value, numerator, denominator and confidence intervals, where available, for all County Health Rankings ranked and unranked measures for each county in the nation.

This codebook and documentation provides the name of each variable, its data source and the years of data. For the full detailed list of variable names, please see the file titled “DataDictionary_2011.”

Standard variable format

Each measure variable name is coded with a measure ID. These measure IDs can be found in the tables at the end of the documentation and in the data dictionary referenced above. You will find at least five variables for each measure:

Measure value coded as v(measure id)_rawvalue
Numerator coded as v(measure id)_numerator
Denominator coded as v(measure id)_denominator
Lower bound of 95% confidence interval coded as v(measure id)_cilow
Upper bound of 95% confidence interval coded as v(measure id)_cihigh

Non-standard measure variables

Health care provider measures: Two measures have a “ratio” variable included. These measures and their corresponding variable are

- Primary care physicians (variable = v004_other_data_1),
- Mental health providers (variable = v062_other_data_1), and

For these measures, we report a ratio of population:number of providers on the website. However, in calculating the rankings, we use the actual *rate* of number of providers/100,000 population. We include both the rate (as the value variable), and the *ratio* (as the “other data 1” variable). If you are trying to replicate the rankings, you should use the rate rather than the ratio.

When a county has no reported providers (ratio = [population]:0), the value for the ratio variable is assigned to be the negative population value. For example, v004_other_data_1 stores the ratio variable as a positive number if the ratio is XXXX:1. However, for counties that have zero providers, the value is stored as a negative number to indicate that the ratio is different and is instead XXXX:0. (For example, if the ratio is 2000:0, the value stored in the field would be -2000.)

For information about how the County Health Rankings are calculated, and more in depth descriptions of each of the measures, please visit www.countyhealthrankings.org

2011 Measures & Data Sources

	Measure	Data Source	Years of Data
HEALTH OUTCOMES			
Mortality	Premature death (1)	National Center for Health Statistics	2005-2007
Morbidity	Poor or fair health (2)	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
	Poor physical health days (36)	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
	Poor mental health days (42)	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
	Low birthweight (37)	National Center for Health Statistics	2001-2007
HEALTH FACTORS			
HEALTH BEHAVIORS			
Tobacco	Adult smoking (9)	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
Diet and Exercise	Adult obesity (11)	CDC Diabetes Interactive Atlas	2008
Alcohol Use	Excessive drinking (49)	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
	Motor vehicle crash death rate (39)	National Center for Health Statistics	2001-2007
High Risk Sexual Behavior	Sexually transmitted infections (45)	National Center for Hepatitis, HIV, STD and TB Prevention	2008
	Teen birth rate (14)	National Center for Health Statistics	2001-2007
CLINICAL CARE			
Access to Care	Uninsured adults (3)	Small Area Health Insurance Estimates	2008
	Primary care physicians (4)	Health Resources & Services Administration	2008
Quality of Care	Preventable hospital stays (5)	Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care	2006-2007
	Diabetes monitoring (7)	Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care	2006-2007
	Mammography screening (50)	Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care	2006-2007
SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS			
Education	High school graduation (21)	National Center for Education Statistics ¹	2006-2007
	Some college (69)	American Community Survey	2005-2009
Employment	Unemployment (23)	Bureau of Labor Statistics	2009
Income	Children in poverty (24)	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates	2007
Family and Social Support	Inadequate social support (40)	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2009
	Single-parent households (82)	American Community Survey	2005-2009
Community Safety	Violent crime ² (43)	Uniform Crime Reporting - FBI	2006-2008
	Homicides (15)	National Center for Health Statistics	2001-2007
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT			
Air Quality³	Air pollution-particulate matter days (125)	Environmental Public Health Tracking Network	2006
	Air pollution-ozone days (29)	Environmental Public Health Tracking Network	2006
Built Environment	Access to healthy foods (30)	Census Zip Code Business Patterns	2008
	Access to recreational facilities (68)	Census County Business Patterns	2008

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

² Violent crime data is not available for the following states: 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. Therefore, the homicide rate (2001-2007) from National Center for Health Statistics was used as a replacement in rankings. State data source for IL.

³ Not available for AK and HI.

Additional Measures, Data Sources, and Years of Data, 2011

Measure (ID)	Data Source	Years of Data
DEMOGRAPHICS		
Population (51)	Census Population Estimates	2009
% below 18 years of age (52)	Census Population Estimates	2009
% 65 and older (53)	Census Population Estimates	2009
% Non-Hispanic African American (54)	Census Population Estimates	2009
% American Indian and Alaskan Native (55)	Census Population Estimates	2009
% Asian (81)	Census Population Estimates	2009
% Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (80)	Census Population Estimates	2009
% Hispanic (56)	Census Population Estimates	2009
% not proficient in English (59)	American Community Survey, 5-year estimates	2009
% Females (57)	Census Population Estimates	2009
% Rural (58)	Census Population Estimates	2000
HEALTH OUTCOMES		
Diabetes (60)	CDC Diabetes Interactive Atlas	2008
HIV prevalence rate (61)	National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention	2007
HEALTH BEHAVIORS		
Physical inactivity (70)	CDC Diabetes Interactive Atlas	2008
Binge Drinking (12)	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2003-2009
CLINICAL CARE		
Mental health providers (62)	Health Resources & Services Administration	2007
SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS		
Median household income (63)	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates	2008
High housing costs (64)	American Community Survey, 5-year estimates	2005-2009
Children eligible for free lunch (65)	National Center for Education Statistics	2005-2006
% illiterate (66)	National Center for Education Statistics	2003
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT		
Driving alone to work (67)	American Community Survey, 5-year estimates	2005-2009
Liquor store density (41)	County Business Patterns	2008