Where we live matters to our health.

One of the greatest disparities in this country is that some places are healthy, but others are not.

There is relatively little discussion about these disparities by the public or policy makers.

America’s Health Rankings

- Ranks the overall health of all 50 states, from healthiest to least healthy.
- First published in 1990 and annually thereafter.
- Uses a model that summarizes the overall health of each state.

America’s Health Ranking – 2009

Wisconsin #10

Vermont #1

Mississippi #50
Response to the State Health Rankings

- Great interest in the media and among policy makers for the past 20 years.
- Provides model to summarize the health of an entire state.
- But just as “all politics is local” so is public health.
- We decided to adapt this model for Wisconsin.

Wisconsin County Health Rankings

- Published annually since 2003
- Ranks health in all 72 counties
What Happened Next?

- Several states (TN, NM, KS) used the Wisconsin Model for county rankings in their state
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded the "MATCH" Project in 2009
- Includes producing the County Health Rankings for each of the 50 states, from 2010-2012

The MATCH Project and the County Health Rankings

- The Wisconsin MATCH Team
  - Including David Kindig, Jessica Athens, Julie Willems Van Dijk
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
  - Including Brenda Henry, Michelle Larkin, Jim Marks, Joe Marx, Pamela Russo
- Our Partners
  - Including CDC, NCHS, ASTHO, NACCHO, NNPHI, Leah Devlin, Dartmouth Institute, 11-member Metrics Advisory Group.
Health Outcome Disparities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Least Healthy</th>
<th>Healthiest</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult smoking</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventable hospital stays</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in poverty</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to healthy foods</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*Median of 50 healthiest vs. least healthy counties

How to Use the County Health Rankings?
A call to action

The first annual checkup for every county in the nation

Provides information on the many factors that influence community health

Shows that health is everyone’s business