



# County Health Rankings

Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health

2010

**Arkansas**



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

**Population Health Institute**

*Translating Research into Policy and Practice*



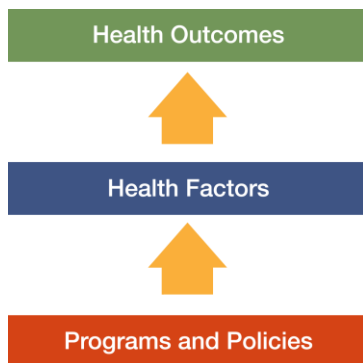
## Introduction

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.

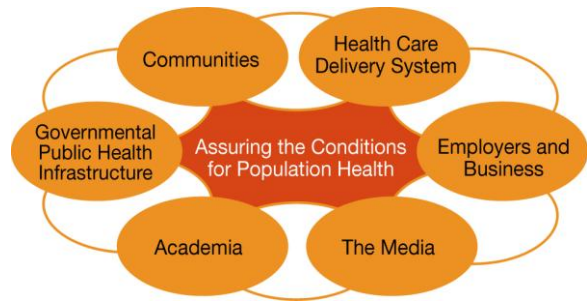
The problem is that there are big differences in health across communities, with some places being much healthier than others. And up to now, it has been hard to get a standard way to measure how healthy a county is and see where they can improve.

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.



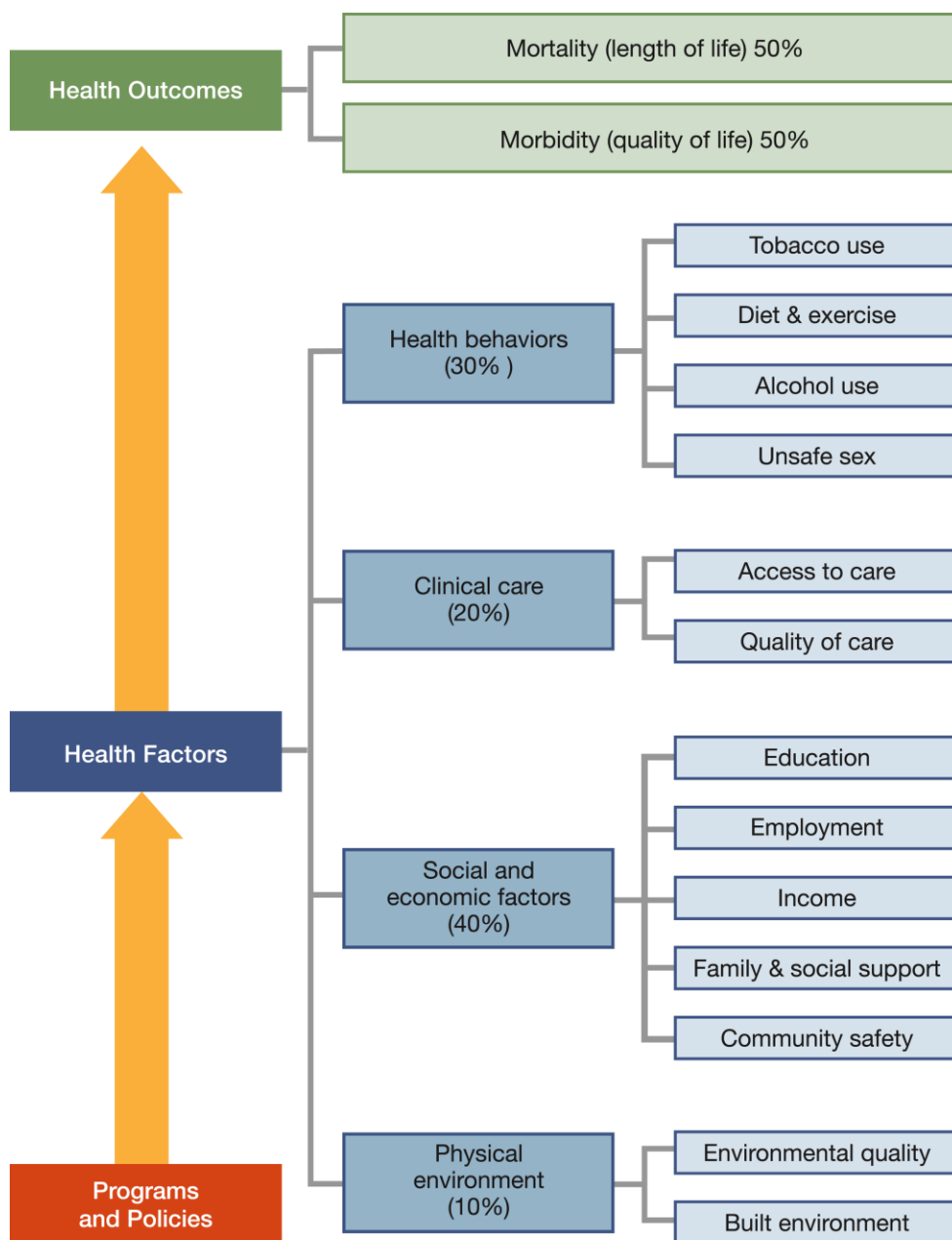
Institute of Medicine, 2002

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 Arkansas 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.

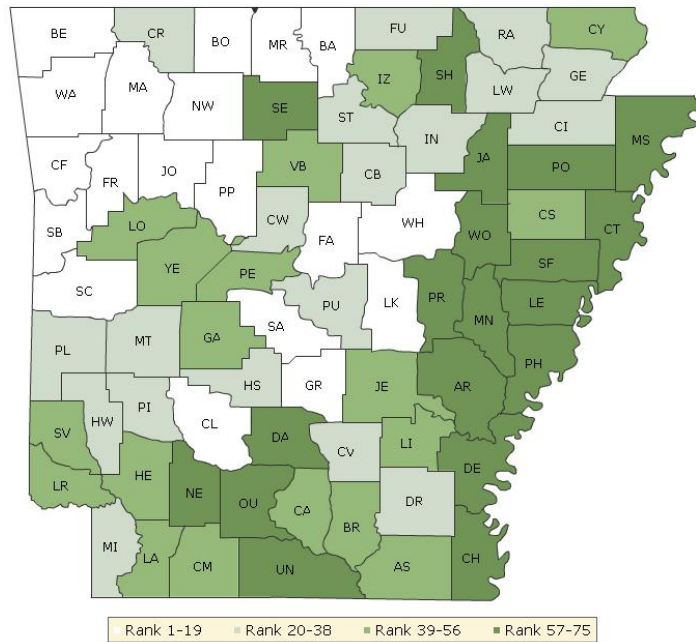


County Health Rankings model ©2010 UWPHI

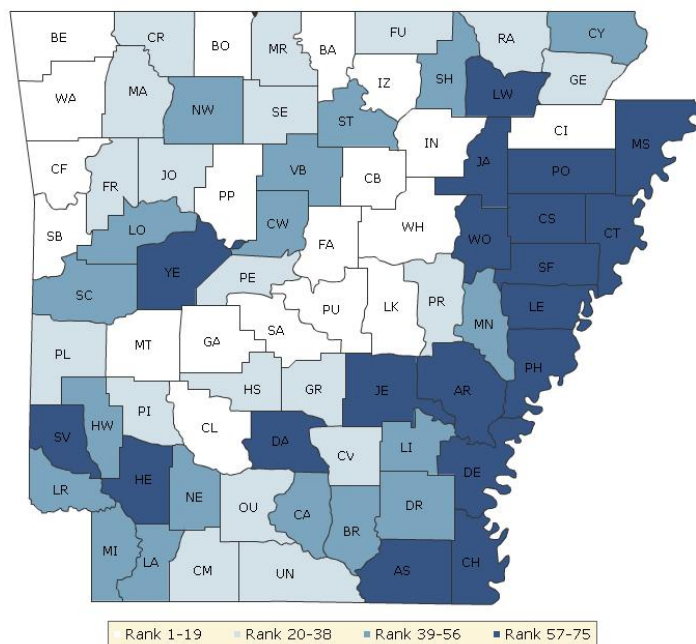
The maps on this page display Arkansas's counties divided into groups by health rank. The lighter colors indicate better performance in the respective summary rankings. The green map shows the distribution of summary health outcomes. The blue displays the distribution of the summary rank for health factors.

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



### HEALTH FACTORS



## 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	Benton	1	Benton
2	Washington	2	Washington
3	Pope	3	Faulkner
4	Faulkner	4	Saline
5	Newton	5	Sebastian
6	Franklin	6	Craighead
7	Saline	7	Cleburne
8	Baxter	8	Pope
9	Marion	9	Boone
10	Madison	10	White
11	Clark	11	Pulaski
12	Boone	12	Baxter
13	Johnson	13	Crawford
14	Sebastian	14	Clark
15	White	15	Izard
16	Crawford	16	Montgomery
17	Grant	17	Garland
18	Scott	18	Lonoke
19	Lonoke	19	Independence
20	Polk	20	Johnson
21	Pike	21	Carroll
22	Craighead	22	Polk
23	Conway	23	Union
24	Carroll	24	Pike
25	Howard	25	Franklin
26	Stone	26	Cleveland
27	Randolph	27	Grant
28	Cleburne	28	Madison
29	Hot Spring	29	Ouachita
30	Montgomery	30	Marion
31	Pulaski	31	Fulton
32	Fulton	32	Greene
33	Cleveland	33	Searcy
34	Independence	34	Prairie
35	Drew	35	Hot Spring
36	Greene	36	Perry
37	Miller	37	Columbia
38	Lawrence	38	Randolph
39	Cross	39	Van Buren
40	Yell	40	Conway

Rank	Health Outcomes	Rank	Health Factors
41	Bradley	41	Howard
42	Izard	42	Calhoun
43	Little River	43	Little River
44	Ashley	44	Sharp
45	Calhoun	45	Miller
46	Perry	46	Logan
47	Garland	47	Nevada
48	Hempstead	48	Stone
49	Columbia	49	Newton
50	Van Buren	50	Bradley
51	Sevier	51	Scott
52	Lincoln	52	Lincoln
53	Lafayette	53	Lafayette
54	Jefferson	54	Drew
55	Clay	55	Clay
56	Logan	56	Monroe
57	Union	57	Yell
58	Lee	58	Lawrence
59	Jackson	59	Dallas
60	Nevada	60	Cross
61	Ouachita	61	Arkansas
62	Searcy	62	Hempstead
63	Sharp	63	Sevier
64	Prairie	64	Jefferson
65	Desha	65	Woodruff
66	Chicot	66	Jackson
67	Arkansas	67	Ashley
68	Dallas	68	Desha
69	St. Francis	69	Lee
70	Crittenden	70	Chicot
71	Monroe	71	Mississippi
72	Mississippi	72	Poinsett
73	Poinsett	73	Crittenden
74	Woodruff	74	St. Francis
75	Phillips	75	Phillips

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



Rank	Mortality	Morbidity
41	Lafayette	Polk
42	Greene	Miller
43	Yell	Stone
44	Sharp	Jefferson
45	Cross	Lincoln
46	Izard	Monroe
47	Fulton	Randolph
48	Lawrence	Van Buren
49	Bradley	Independence
50	Calhoun	Clay
51	Logan	Cleburne
52	Van Buren	Dallas
53	Nevada	Ashley
54	Ouachita	Little River
55	Lincoln	Lee
56	Garland	Searcy
57	Searcy	Woodruff
58	Jefferson	Ouachita
59	Lee	Perry
60	Clay	Logan
61	Columbia	Arkansas
62	Chicot	Desha
63	Prairie	Prairie
64	Desha	Poinsett
65	St. Francis	Nevada
66	Arkansas	Lafayette
67	Mississippi	Crittenden
68	Union	Phillips
69	Sevier	Chicot
70	Crittenden	Hempstead
71	Dallas	St. Francis
72	Poinsett	Sharp
73	Monroe	Cleveland
74	Phillips	Jackson
75	Woodruff	Mississippi

## 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	Montgomery	1	Pulaski	1	Washington	1	Marion
2	Benton	2	Jefferson	2	Benton	2	Chicot
3	Washington	3	Union	3	Faulkner	3	Polk
4	White	4	Sebastian	4	Saline	4	Van Buren
5	Cleburne	5	Faulkner	5	Lonoke	5	Bradley
6	Faulkner	6	Garland	6	Craighead	5	Lafayette
7	Izard	7	Craighead	7	Pope	7	Benton
8	Saline	8	Benton	8	Franklin	8	Pope
9	Sebastian	9	Saline	9	Grant	9	Cleburne
10	Pulaski	10	Miller	10	Madison	10	Howard
11	Baxter	11	Washington	11	Sebastian	11	Lincoln
12	Boone	12	Lincoln	12	Cleburne	12	Scott
13	Clark	13	Ouachita	13	Boone	13	Carroll
14	Craighead	14	Conway	14	Pike	14	Sharp
15	Searcy	15	Crittenden	15	Crawford	15	Crawford
16	Garland	16	Baxter	16	White	16	Madison
17	Carroll	17	Ashley	17	Clark	17	Columbia
18	Stone	18	St. Francis	18	Little River	18	Pike
19	Crawford	19	Columbia	19	Pulaski	19	Yell
20	Independence	20	Pope	20	Cleveland	20	Boone
21	Marion	21	Boone	21	Baxter	21	Johnson
22	Lafayette	22	Arkansas	22	Johnson	22	Lawrence
23	Pike	23	Randolph	23	Carroll	22	Nevada
24	Pope	24	Independence	24	Greene	24	Little River
25	Johnson	25	Crawford	25	Polk	25	Washington
26	Randolph	26	Cleburne	26	Izard	26	Hempstead
27	Polk	27	Logan	27	Independence	27	Sevier
28	Prairie	28	Lonoke	28	Perry	28	Randolph
29	Calhoun	29	Nevada	29	Garland	29	Independence
30	Dallas	30	Johnson	30	Yell	30	Searcy
31	Jackson	31	Clark	31	Fulton	31	Stone
32	Columbia	32	Greene	32	Hot Spring	32	Izard
33	Lee	33	White	33	Scott	33	Fulton
34	Ouachita	34	Chicot	34	Newton	34	Grant
35	Woodruff	35	Cleveland	35	Conway	35	White
36	Perry	36	Polk	36	Prairie	36	Newton
37	Fulton	37	Calhoun	37	Miller	37	Cross
38	Bradley	38	Bradley	38	Montgomery	38	Sebastian
39	Hot Spring	39	Lee	39	Van Buren	39	Ouachita
40	Union	40	Franklin	40	Sevier	40	Lonoke

Rank	Health Behaviors	Rank	Clinical Care	Rank	Social & Economic Factors	Rank	Physical Environment
41	Cleveland	41	Lawrence	41	Howard	41	Logan
42	Sharp	42	Sharp	42	Union	42	Clark
43	Howard	43	Izard	43	Searcy	43	Drew
44	Drew	44	Monroe	44	Hempstead	44	Ashley
45	Lincoln	45	Poinsett	45	Calhoun	45	Clay
46	Van Buren	46	Mississippi	46	Logan	46	Craighead
47	Greene	47	Van Buren	47	Cross	47	Faulkner
48	Conway	48	Cross	48	Marion	48	Hot Spring
49	Monroe	49	Hot Spring	49	Stone	49	Montgomery
50	Franklin	50	Carroll	50	Sharp	50	Monroe
51	Scott	51	Grant	51	Nevada	51	Lee
52	Clay	52	Fulton	52	Ouachita	52	Miller
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59	Newton	59	Phillips	59	Bradley	59	Garland
60	Madison	60	Montgomery	60	Poinsett	60	Union
61	Sevier	61	Newton	61	Ashley	61	Phillips
62	Arkansas	62	Howard	62	Arkansas	62	Baxter
63	St. Francis	63	Perry	63	Lafayette	63	Saline
64	Little River	64	Little River	64	Dallas	64	Franklin
65	Lawrence	65	Desha	65	Jackson	65	Calhoun
66	Mississippi	66	Searcy	66	Lincoln	66	Dallas
67	Miller	67	Lafayette	67	Woodruff	67	Desha
68	Hempstead	68	Pike	68	Mississippi	68	Greene
69	Jefferson	69	Hempstead	69	Jefferson	69	Jackson
70	Phillips	70	Woodruff	70	Desha	70	St. Francis
71	Cross	71	Scott	71	Crittenden	71	Poinsett
72	Crittenden	72	Jackson	72	Chicot	72	Mississippi
73	Chicot	73	Stone	73	St. Francis	73	Conway
74	Ashley	74	Sevier	74	Phillips	74	Crittenden
75	Poinsett	75	Yell	75	Lee	75	Pulaski

## 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	2007
	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<sup>4</sup></b>	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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