



# County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

A Healthier Nation, County by County

## 2013 *Rankings* **Mississippi**



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

**Population Health Institute**

*Translating Research for Policy and Practice*



## Introduction

Where we live matters to our health. The health of a community depends on many different factors, including the environment, education and jobs, access to and quality of healthcare, and individual behaviors. We can improve a community's health by implementing effective policies and programs. For example, 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. In addition, people who live in communities with safe and accessible park and recreation space are more likely to exercise, which reduces heart disease risk.

However, health varies greatly across communities, with some places being much healthier than others. And, until now, there has been no standard method to illustrate what we know about what makes people sick or healthy or a central resource to identify what we can do to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play.

We know that much of what influences our health happens outside of the doctor's office – in our schools, workplaces and neighborhoods. The *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* program provides information on the overall health of your community and provides the tools necessary to create community-based, evidence-informed solutions. Ranking the health of nearly every county across the nation, the *County Health Rankings* illustrate **what we know** when it comes to what is making communities sick or healthy. The *County Health Roadmaps* show **what we can do** to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation collaborates with the University of Wisconsin

Population Health Institute to bring this groundbreaking program to counties and states across the nation.

The *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* program includes the *County Health Rankings* project, launched in 2010, and the newer *Roadmaps* project that mobilizes local communities, national partners and leaders across all sectors to improve health. The program is based on 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. Counties can improve health outcomes by addressing all health factors with effective, evidence-informed policies and programs.

Everyone has a stake in community health. We all need to work together to find solutions. The *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* serve as both a call to action and a needed tool in this effort.

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## Guide to Our Web Site

To compile the *Rankings*, we selected measures that reflect important aspects of population health that can be improved and are available at the county level across the nation. Visit [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org) to learn more.

To get started and see data, enter your county or state name in the search box. Click on the name of a county or measure to see more details. You can: Compare Counties; Download data for your state; Print one or more county

snapshots; or Share information with others via Facebook, Twitter, or Google+. To understand our methods, click on Learn about the Data and Methods. You can also take advantage of the Using the *Rankings* Data guide to help you explore the data and figure out more about what is driving your community's health. To learn about what you can do to improve health in your community, visit the *Roadmaps to Health* Action Center. Finally, you can learn what others are doing by reading Communities Stories and visiting the Project Showcase.

## County Health Roadmaps

The *Rankings* illustrate **what we know** when it comes to making people sick or healthy. The *County Health Rankings* confirm the critical role that factors such as education, jobs, income and the environment play in how healthy people are and how long we live.

The *County Health Roadmaps* mobilizes local communities, national partners and leaders across all sectors to improve health. The *County Health Roadmaps* show **what we can do** to create healthier places to live, learn, work and play. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) collaborates with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute (UWPHI) to bring this groundbreaking project to cities, counties and states across the nation.

The *Roadmaps* project includes grants to local coalitions and partnerships among policymakers, business, education, public health, health care, and community organizations; grants to national organizations working to improve health; recognition of communities whose promising efforts have led to better health; and customized guidance on strategies to improve health.

### Roadmaps to Health Community Grants

The *Roadmaps to Health* Community Grants provide funding for 2 years to thirty state and local efforts among policymakers, business, education, healthcare, public health and community organizations working to create positive policy or systems changes that address the social and economic factors that influence the health of people in their community.

### Roadmaps to Health Partner Grants

RWJF is awarding *Roadmaps to Health* Partner Grants to national organizations that are experienced at engaging local partners and leaders and are able to deliver high-quality training and technical assistance, and committed to making communities healthier places to live, learn, work and play. Partner grantees increase awareness about the *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* to their members, affiliates and allies. As of February 2013, RWJF has awarded partner grants to United Way Worldwide, National Business Coalition on Health, and National Association of Counties.

### RWJF Roadmaps to Health Prize

In February 2013, RWJF awarded the first *RWJF Roadmaps to Health* Prizes of \$25,000 to six communities that are working to become healthier places to live, learn, work and play. The *RWJF Roadmaps to Health* Prize is intended not only to honor successful efforts, but also to inspire and stimulate similar activities in other U.S. communities.



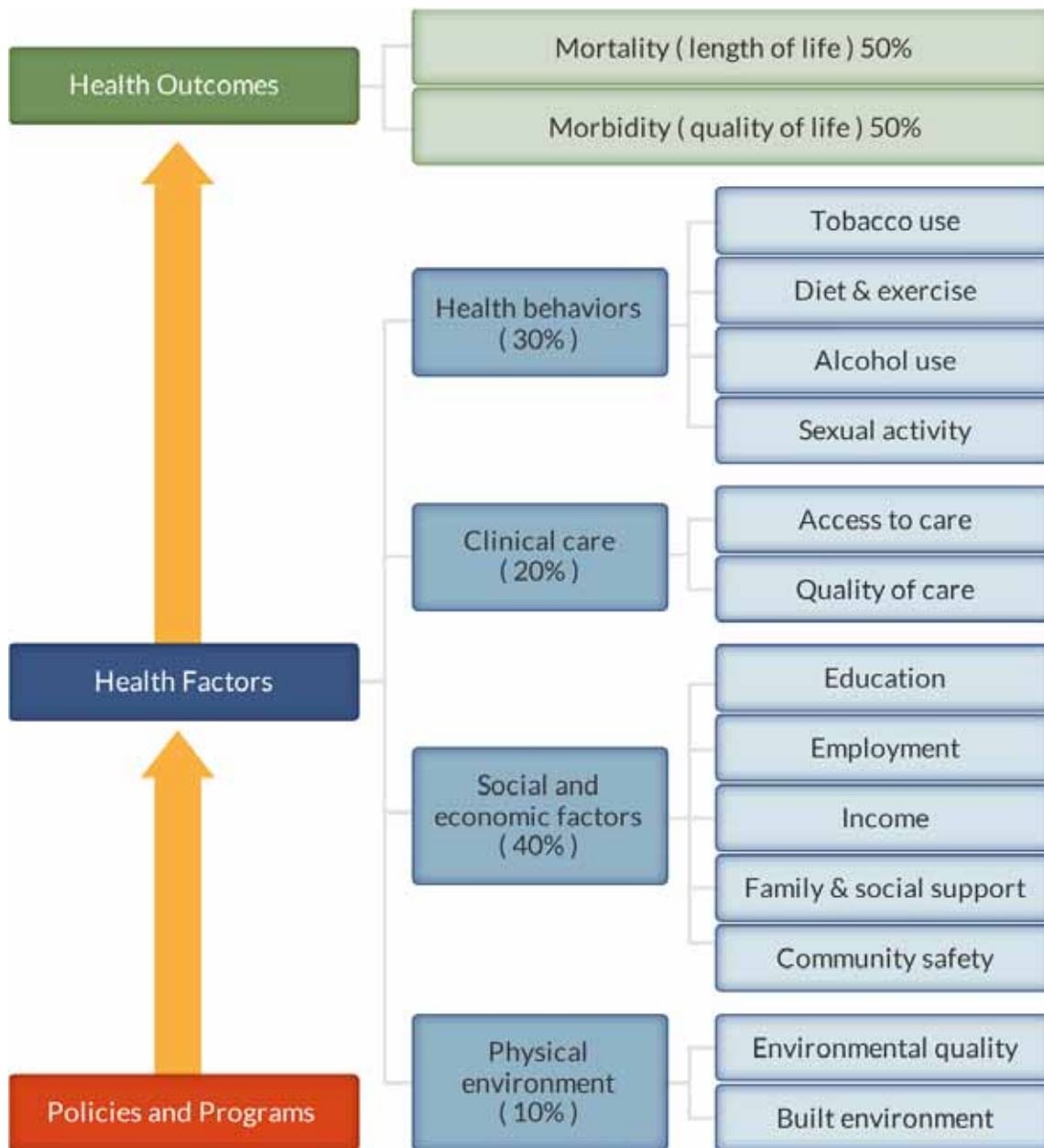
### Roadmaps to Health Action Center

The *Roadmaps to Health* Action Center, based at UWPHI, provides tools and guidance to help groups working to make their communities healthier places. The Action Center website provides guidance on developing strategies and advocacy efforts to advance pro-health policies, opportunities for ongoing learning, and a searchable database of evidence-informed policies and programs focused on health improvement: *What Works for Health*. Action Center staff provide customized consultation via email and telephone to those seeking more information about how to improve health. Coaching, including possible on-site visits, is also available for communities who have demonstrated the willingness and capacity to address factors that we know influence how healthy a person is, such as education, income and family connectedness.

## County Health Rankings

The 2013 *County Health Rankings* report ranks Mississippi counties according to their summary measures of **health outcomes** and **health factors**. Counties also receive a rank for mortality, morbidity, health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment. The figure below depicts the structure of the *Rankings* model; 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.

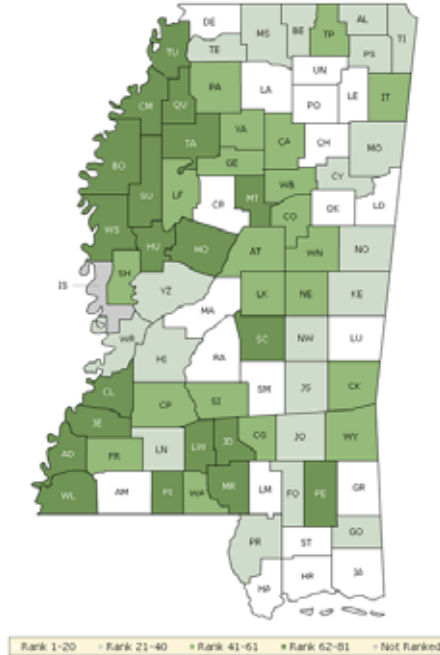


County Health Rankings model ©2012 UWPHI

The maps on this page and the next display Mississippi's counties divided into groups by health rank. Maps help locate the healthiest and least healthy counties in the state. The lighter colors indicate better performance in the respective

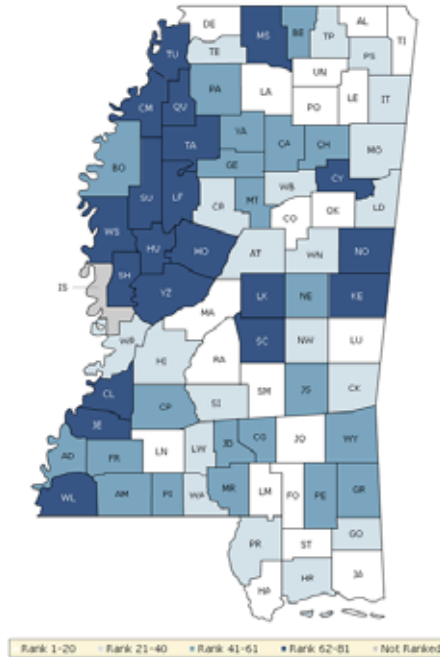
summary rankings. The green map shows the distribution of summary health outcomes. The blue displays the distribution of the summary rank for health factors.

### HEALTH OUTCOMES



County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank
Adams	66	Grenada	54	Lincoln	38	Simpson	58
Alcorn	36	Hancock	10	Lowndes	15	Smith	18
Amite	17	Harrison	14	Madison	5	Stone	19
Attala	61	Hinds	37	Marion	75	Sunflower	76
Benton	35	Holmes	78	Marshall	30	Tallahatchie	72
Bolivar	65	Humphreys	71	Monroe	31	Tate	32
Calhoun	44	Issaquena	NR	Montgomery	69	Tippah	57
Carroll	8	Itawamba	41	Neshoba	51	Tishomingo	29
Chickasaw	16	Jackson	13	Newton	26	Tunica	70
Choctaw	49	Jasper	34	Noxubee	28	Union	9
Claiborne	77	Jefferson	74	Oktibbeha	6	Walthall	59
Clarke	43	Jefferson Davis	68	Panola	50	Warren	39
Clay	23	Jones	22	Pearl River	40	Washington	64
Coahoma	80	Kemper	33	Perry	63	Wayne	48
Copiah	55	Lafayette	3	Pike	73	Webster	52
Covington	42	Lamar	2	Pontotoc	11	Wilkinson	79
DeSoto	1	Lauderdale	20	Prentiss	21	Winston	53
Forrest	27	Lawrence	67	Quitman	81	Yalobusha	45
Franklin	60	Leake	46	Rankin	4	Yazoo	24
George	25	Lee	12	Scott	62		
Greene	7	Leflore	56	Sharkey	47		

### HEALTH FACTORS



County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank
Adams	49	Grenada	45	Lincoln	12	Simpson	33
Alcorn	18	Hancock	17	Lowndes	25	Smith	13
Amite	50	Harrison	22	Madison	1	Stone	16
Attala	35	Hinds	21	Marion	61	Sunflower	79
Benton	57	Holmes	80	Marshall	67	Tallahatchie	69
Bolivar	48	Humphreys	74	Monroe	24	Tate	37
Calhoun	42	Issaquena	NR	Montgomery	54	Tippah	36
Carroll	27	Itawamba	28	Neshoba	43	Tishomingo	19
Chickasaw	52	Jackson	8	Newton	23	Tunica	81
Choctaw	10	Jasper	46	Noxubee	66	Union	20
Claiborne	73	Jefferson	77	Oktibbeha	4	Walthall	38
Clarke	29	Jefferson Davis	58	Panola	59	Warren	39
Clay	71	Jones	15	Pearl River	34	Washington	70
Coahoma	78	Kemper	68	Perry	44	Wayne	53
Copiah	47	Lafayette	5	Pike	51	Webster	30
Covington	41	Lamar	2	Pontotoc	9	Wilkinson	62
DeSoto	6	Lauderdale	14	Prentiss	26	Winston	31
Forrest	11	Lawrence	40	Quitman	76	Yalobusha	56
Franklin	55	Leake	63	Rankin	3	Yazoo	64
George	32	Lee	7	Scott	65		
Greene	60	Leflore	75	Sharkey	72		

## 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 represent what influences the health of the county.

Rank	Health Outcomes	Rank	Health Factors
1	DeSoto	1	Madison
2	Lamar	2	Lamar
3	Lafayette	3	Rankin
4	Rankin	4	Oktibbeha
5	Madison	5	Lafayette
6	Oktibbeha	6	DeSoto
7	Greene	7	Lee
8	Carroll	8	Jackson
9	Union	9	Pontotoc
10	Hancock	10	Choctaw
11	Pontotoc	11	Forrest
12	Lee	12	Lincoln
13	Jackson	13	Smith
14	Harrison	14	Lauderdale
15	Lowndes	15	Jones
16	Chickasaw	16	Stone
17	Amite	17	Hancock
18	Smith	18	Alcorn
19	Stone	19	Tishomingo
20	Lauderdale	20	Union
21	Prentiss	21	Hinds
22	Jones	22	Harrison
23	Clay	23	Newton
24	Yazoo	24	Monroe
25	George	25	Lowndes
26	Newton	26	Prentiss
27	Forrest	27	Carroll
28	Noxubee	28	Itawamba
29	Tishomingo	29	Clarke
30	Marshall	30	Webster
31	Monroe	31	Winston
32	Tate	32	George
33	Kemper	33	Simpson
34	Jasper	34	Pearl River
35	Benton	35	Attala
36	Alcorn	36	Tippah
37	Hinds	37	Tate
38	Lincoln	38	Walthall
39	Warren	39	Warren
40	Pearl River	40	Lawrence
41	Itawamba	41	Covington
42	Covington	42	Calhoun



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

**Not Ranked:** Issaquena

## 2013 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	2008-2010
<b>Morbidity</b>	Poor or fair health	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2011
	Poor physical health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2011
	Poor mental health days	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2011
	Low birthweight	National Center for Health Statistics	2004-2010
<b>HEALTH FACTORS</b>			
<b>HEALTH BEHAVIORS</b>			
<b>Tobacco Use</b>	Adult smoking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2011
<b>Diet and Exercise</b>	Adult obesity	National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	2009
	Physical inactivity	National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	2009
<b>Alcohol Use</b>	Excessive drinking	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2011
	Motor vehicle crash death rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2004-2010
<b>Sexual Activity</b>	Sexually transmitted infections	National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB prevention	2010
	Teen birth rate	National Center for Health Statistics	2004-2010
<b>CLINICAL CARE</b>			
<b>Access to Care</b>	Uninsured	Small Area Health Insurance Estimates	2010
	Primary care physicians	HRSA Area Resource File	2011-2012
	Dentists	HRSA Area Resource File	2011-2012
<b>Quality of Care</b>	Preventable hospital stays	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2010
	Diabetic screening	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2010
	Mammography screening	Medicare/Dartmouth Institute	2010
<b>SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS</b>			
<b>Education</b>	High school graduation	Primarily state-specific sources, supplemented with National Center for Education Statistics	State-specific
	Some college	American Community Survey	2007-2011
<b>Employment</b>	Unemployment	Bureau of Labor Statistics	2011
<b>Income</b>	Children in poverty	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates	2011
<b>Family and Social Support</b>	Inadequate social support	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	2005-2010
	Children in single-parent households	American Community Survey	2007-2011
<b>Community Safety</b>	Violent crime rate	Federal Bureau of Investigation	2008-2010
<b>PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT</b>			
<b>Environmental Quality</b>	Daily fine particulate matter <sup>1</sup>	CDC WONDER Environmental data	2008
	Drinking water safety	Safe Drinking Water Information System	FY 2012
<b>Built Environment</b>	Access to recreational facilities	Census County Business Patterns	2010
	Limited access to healthy foods	USDA Food Environment Atlas	2012
	Fast food restaurants	Census County Business Patterns	2010

<sup>1</sup> Not available for AK and HI.

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