



# County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

A Healthier Nation, County by County

## 2013 *Rankings* Pennsylvania





## 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.



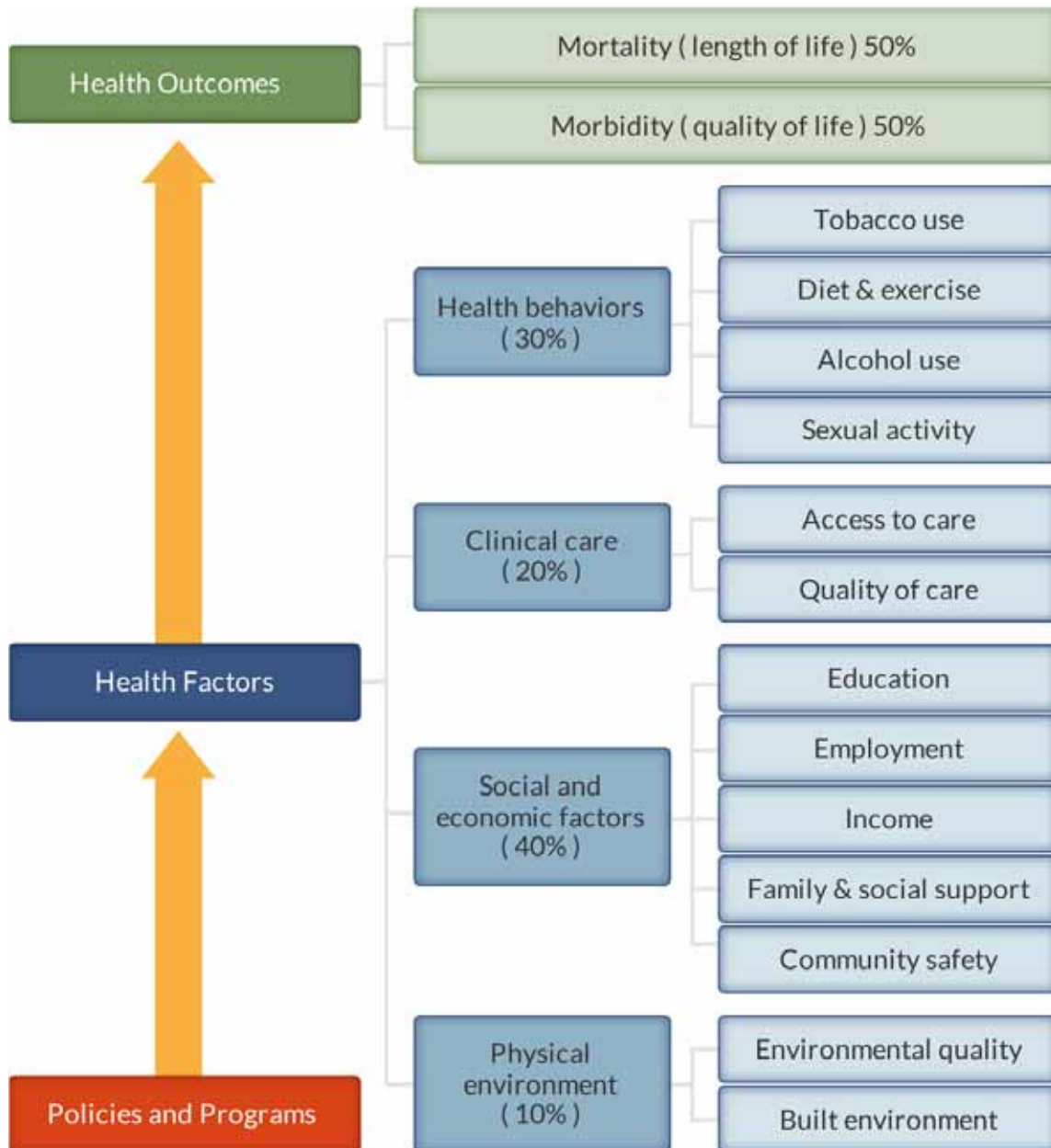
### Roadmaps to Health Action Center

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 Pennsylvania 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.

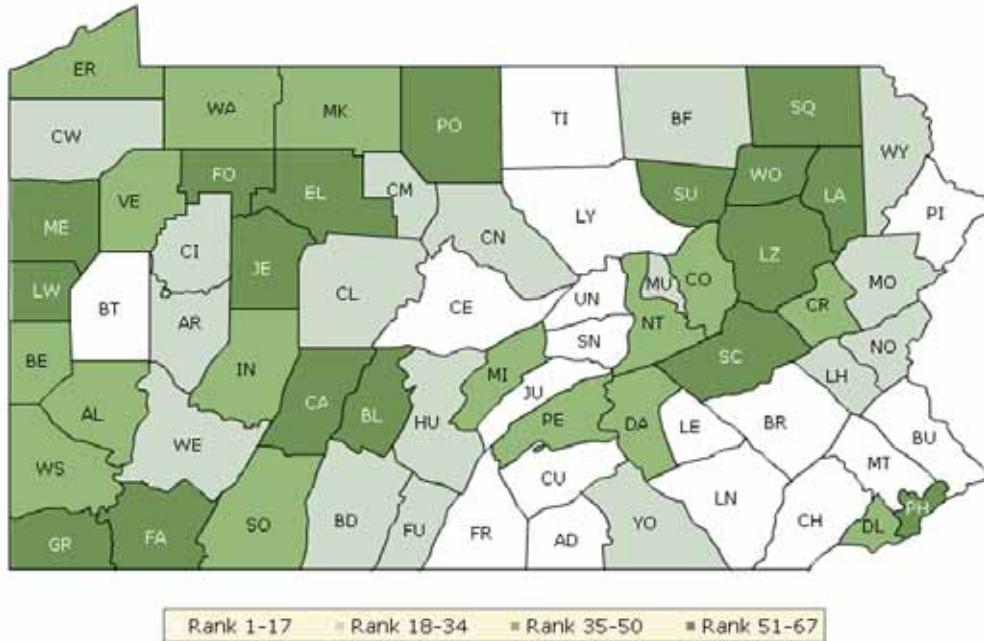


County Health Rankings model ©2012 UWPHI

The maps on this page and the next display Pennsylvania’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

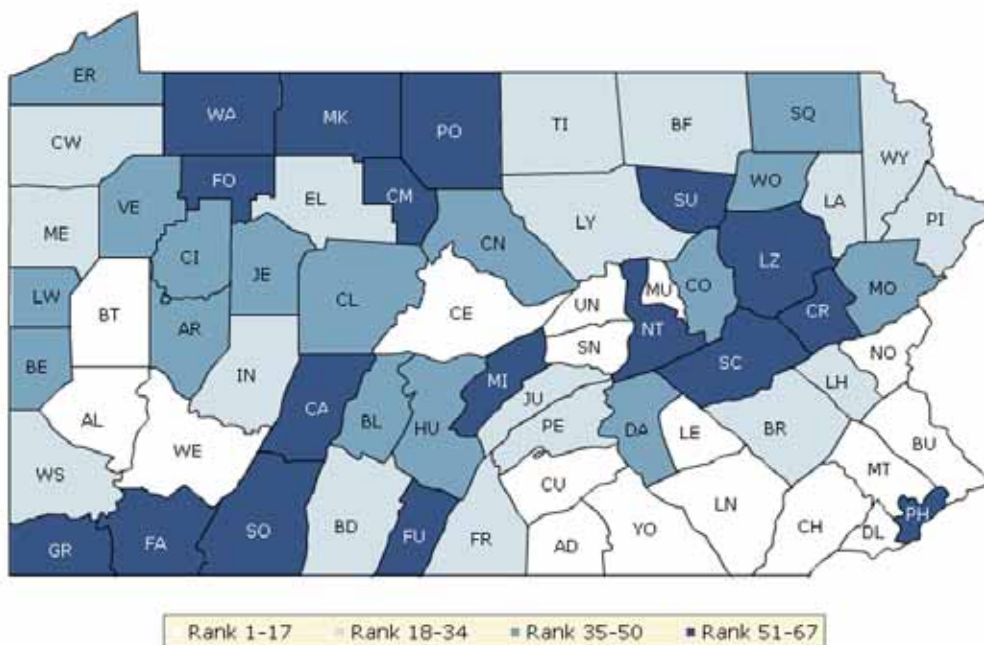
summary rankings. The green map shows the distribution of summary health outcomes. The blue displays the distribution of the summary rank for health factors.

**HEALTH OUTCOMES**



County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank
Adams	12	Clinton	20	Lackawanna	58	Pike	11
Allegheny	46	Columbia	45	Lancaster	8	Potter	55
Armstrong	33	Crawford	32	Lawrence	59	Schuylkill	53
Beaver	44	Cumberland	4	Lebanon	13	Snyder	5
Bedford	24	Dauphin	47	Lehigh	18	Somerset	35
Berks	17	Delaware	41	Luzerne	57	Sullivan	64
Blair	56	Elk	61	Lycoming	16	Susquehanna	52
Bradford	27	Erie	49	McKean	48	Tioga	15
Bucks	9	Fayette	66	Mercer	51	Union	2
Butler	10	Forest	63	Mifflin	39	Venango	37
Cambria	62	Franklin	14	Monroe	31	Warren	40
Cameron	29	Fulton	28	Montgomery	6	Washington	38
Carbon	42	Greene	65	Montour	22	Wayne	30
Centre	3	Huntingdon	21	Northampton	25	Westmoreland	23
Chester	1	Indiana	36	Northumberland	43	Wyoming	54
Clarion	26	Jefferson	60	Perry	50	York	19
Clearfield	34	Juniata	7	Philadelphia	67		

### HEALTH FACTORS



County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank	County	Rank
Adams	8	Clinton	49	Lackawanna	26	Pike	22
Allegheny	14	Columbia	40	Lancaster	9	Potter	54
Armstrong	46	Crawford	27	Lawrence	50	Schuylkill	62
Beaver	36	Cumberland	5	Lebanon	13	Snyder	15
Bedford	31	Dauphin	41	Lehigh	23	Somerset	55
Berks	21	Delaware	12	Luzerne	59	Sullivan	57
Blair	37	Elk	33	Lycoming	32	Susquehanna	43
Bradford	28	Erie	45	McKean	63	Tioga	25
Bucks	4	Fayette	66	Mercer	34	Union	17
Butler	6	Forest	58	Mifflin	52	Venango	44
Cambria	60	Franklin	20	Monroe	47	Warren	53
Cameron	65	Fulton	56	Montgomery	2	Washington	19
Carbon	64	Greene	51	Montour	7	Wayne	18
Centre	3	Huntingdon	35	Northampton	11	Westmoreland	10
Chester	1	Indiana	29	Northumberland	61	Wyoming	42
Clarion	39	Jefferson	48	Perry	30	York	16
Clearfield	38	Juniata	24	Philadelphia	67		

## 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	Chester	1	Chester
2	Union	2	Montgomery
3	Centre	3	Centre
4	Cumberland	4	Bucks
5	Snyder	5	Cumberland
6	Montgomery	6	Butler
7	Juniata	7	Montour
8	Lancaster	8	Adams
9	Bucks	9	Lancaster
10	Butler	10	Westmoreland
11	Pike	11	Northampton
12	Adams	12	Delaware
13	Lebanon	13	Lebanon
14	Franklin	14	Allegheny
15	Tioga	15	Snyder
16	Lycoming	16	York
17	Berks	17	Union
18	Lehigh	18	Wayne
19	York	19	Washington
20	Clinton	20	Franklin
21	Huntingdon	21	Berks
22	Montour	22	Pike
23	Westmoreland	23	Lehigh
24	Bedford	24	Juniata
25	Northampton	25	Tioga
26	Clarion	26	Lackawanna
27	Bradford	27	Crawford
28	Fulton	28	Bradford
29	Cameron	29	Indiana
30	Wayne	30	Perry
31	Monroe	31	Bedford
32	Crawford	32	Lycoming
33	Armstrong	33	Elk
34	Clearfield	34	Mercer
35	Somerset	35	Huntingdon
36	Indiana	36	Beaver
37	Venango	37	Blair
38	Washington	38	Clearfield
39	Mifflin	39	Clarion
40	Warren	40	Columbia
41	Delaware	41	Dauphin
42	Carbon	42	Wyoming



Rank	Health Outcomes	Rank	Health Factors
43	Northumberland	43	Susquehanna
44	Beaver	44	Venango
45	Columbia	45	Erie
46	Allegheny	46	Armstrong
47	Dauphin	47	Monroe
48	McKean	48	Jefferson
49	Erie	49	Clinton
50	Perry	50	Lawrence
51	Mercer	51	Greene
52	Susquehanna	52	Mifflin
53	Schuylkill	53	Warren
54	Wyoming	54	Potter
55	Potter	55	Somerset
56	Blair	56	Fulton
57	Luzerne	57	Sullivan
58	Lackawanna	58	Forest
59	Lawrence	59	Luzerne
60	Jefferson	60	Cambria
61	Elk	61	Northumberland
62	Cambria	62	Schuylkill
63	Forest	63	McKean
64	Sullivan	64	Carbon
65	Greene	65	Cameron
66	Fayette	66	Fayette
67	Philadelphia	67	Philadelphia

## 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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[countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org)



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