

# County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Building a Culture of Health, County by County

A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program

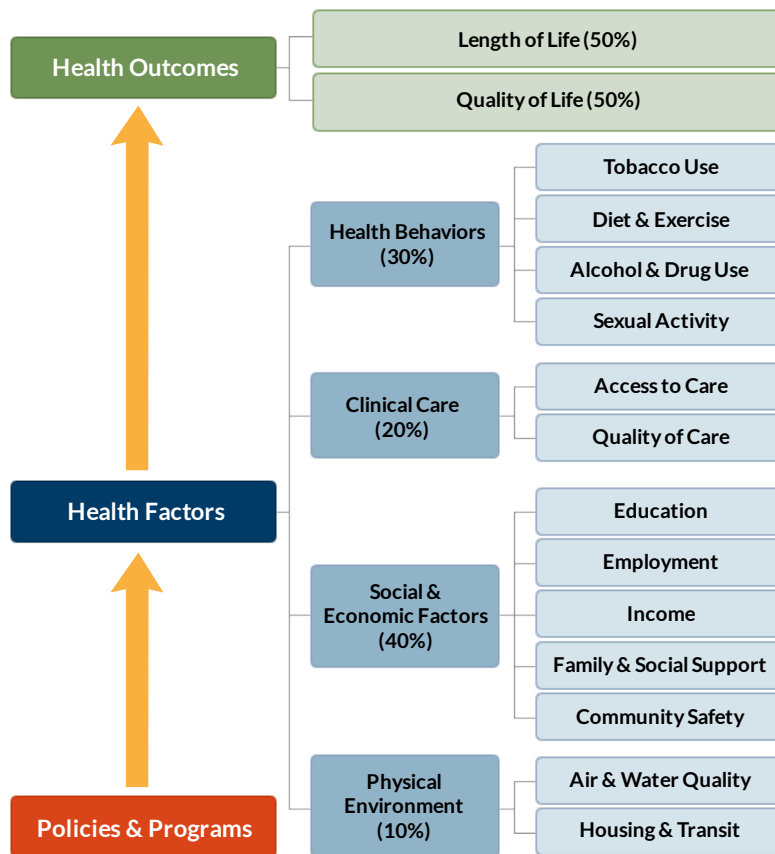


The *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps* program helps communities identify and implement solutions that make it easier for people to be healthy in their schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods. Ranking the health of nearly every county in the nation, the *County Health Rankings* illustrate what we know when it comes to what is making people sick or healthy. The *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 program to cities, counties, and states across the nation.

## WHAT ARE THE COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS?

The *County Health Rankings* measure the health of nearly every county in the nation. Published online at [countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org), the *Rankings* help counties understand what influences how healthy residents are and how long they will live. The *Rankings* look at a variety of measures that affect health, such as high school graduation rates, access to healthy foods, rates of smoking, obesity, and teen births. The *Rankings* are unique in their ability to measure the overall health of each county in all 50 states. They have been used to garner support for local health improvement initiatives among government agencies, healthcare providers, community organizations, business leaders, policymakers, and the public.

For more information, visit [countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org)



## HOW ARE PEOPLE USING THE RANKINGS?

- > Highlighting community success
- > Identifying root causes of poor health
- > Supporting policy change
- > Engaging communities in health improvement

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### WHAT ARE THE ROADMAPS TO HEALTH?

The *Roadmaps to Health* provide support to help communities bring people together to look at the many factors that influence health, select strategies that work, and make changes that will have a lasting impact. The *Roadmaps* focus on helping communities move from data to action and learn from others.

### Moving from Data to Action

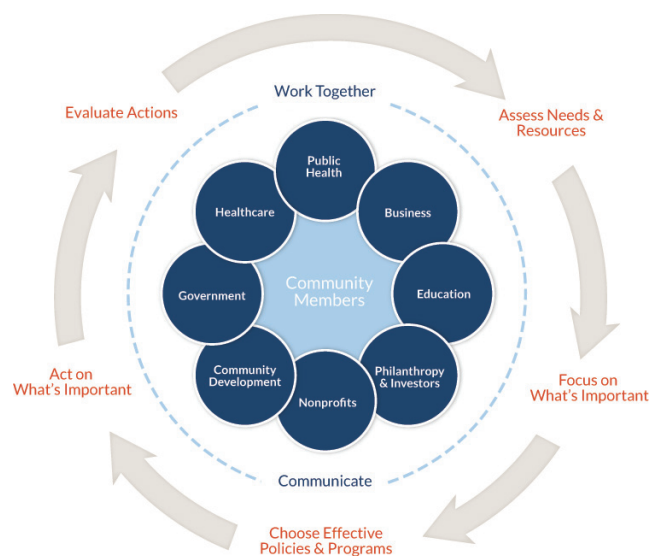
The *Roadmaps to Health* Action Center provides step-by-step guides, tools, and webinars to help groups working to improve the health of their communities. The Action Center also features *What Works for Health* – a searchable database of evidence-informed policies and programs that can improve health. It is your one-stop shop for building a culture of health.

Bringing diverse partners together to address complex health issues is complicated work, so the Action Center also provides Community Coaches who are available to provide customized consultation to local communities that are on their way to addressing factors that influence health, such as education, income, and community safety. Contact a coach at [info@countyhealthrankings.org](mailto:info@countyhealthrankings.org).

### Learning From Others

Honoring the efforts of communities working at the forefront of health improvement, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation annually awards the *RWJF Culture of Health Prize*. The *Prize* recognizes communities with strong and diverse partnerships that are coming together with a shared vision and commitment to building a culture of health for all. Visit [countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org) or [rwjf.org/prize](http://rwjf.org/prize) to learn about the work of past prize winners.

At [countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org), we also feature stories from communities across the nation that have used data from the *County Health Rankings* or have engaged in strategies



to improve health, including the 30 *Roadmaps to Health* Community Grantees that have worked to create positive policy or systems changes that address social and economic factors, such as education and community safety.

You might also want to contact your local affiliate of United Way Worldwide, the National Business Coalition on Health, or the National Association of Counties – their national parent organizations have partnered with us to raise awareness and stimulate action to improve health in their local members' communities.

### How can you get involved?

In communities large and small, people from all walks of life are taking ownership and action to improve health. Visit [countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org) to get ideas and guidance on how you can take action in your community.