

Rutherford County HEALTH WATCH

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Rutherford County Health Watch provides a brief summary of the county's health status at a particular point in time.

Rutherford County Health Rankings

The Tennessee Department of Health, working with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, has compiled 2017 County Health Rankings and Roadmaps for each Tennessee county. Researchers examined and analyzed information on 34 factors that can have a negative or positive impact on health.

Overall, Rutherford County has ranked in the top three counties for the past eight years:

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
3	3	3	2	2	2	3	3

2017	Rutherford County	Error Margin	Top U.S. Performers [^]	Tennessee	Rank (of 95)
Health Outcomes					3
Length of Life					2
Premature death	6,400	6,100–6,700	5,200	8,700	
Quality of life					6
Poor or fair health **	17%	17–18%	12%	20%	
Poor physical health days **	4.4	4.2–4.6	3.0	4.8	
Poor mental health days **	4.2	4.1–4.4	3.0	4.4	
Low birthweight	8%	8–9%	6%	9%	
Health Factors					3
Health Behaviors					7
Adult smoking **	18%	18–19%	14%	22%	
Adult obesity	33%	29–37%	26%	32%	
Food environment index	7.5		8.4	6.8	
Physical inactivity	26%	22–30%	19%	30%	
Access to exercise opportunities	75%		91%	69%	
Excessive drinking **	14%	14–15%	12%	11%	
Alcohol-impaired driving deaths	23%	19–28%	13%	28%	
Sexually transmitted infections	483.6		145.5	474.0	
Teen births	30	29–32	17	42	
Clinical Care					10
Uninsured	12%	11–13%	8%	14%	
Primary care physicians	2,220:1		1,040:1	1,380:1	
Dentists	1,940:1		1,320:1	1,940:1	
Mental health providers	1,350:1		360:1	780:1	
Preventable hospital stays	65	61–69	36	60	
Diabetes monitoring	87%	84–91%	91%	87%	
Mammography screening	69%	64–73%	71%	63%	
Social & Economic Factors					3
High school graduation	94%		95%	88%	
Some college	67%	65–70%	72%	59%	
Unemployment	4.6%		3.3%	5.8%	
Children in poverty	14%	11–16%	12%	24%	
Income inequality	3.8	3.6–3.9	3.7	4.8	
Children in single-parent households	27%	25–30%	21%	36%	
Social associations	7.2		22.1	11.5	
Violent crime	437		62	614	
Injury deaths	51	48–55	53	80	
Physical Environment					72
Air pollution—particulate matter **	10.4		6.7	9.7	
Drinking water violations	No				
Severe housing problems	15%	13–16%	9%	16%	
Driving alone to work	85%	84–86%	72%	84%	
Long commute—driving alone	42%	40–44%	15%	34%	

■ Areas to Explore

■ Areas of Strength

[^] 10th/90th percentile, i.e., only 10% are better. Note: Blank values reflect unreliable or missing data

** Data should not be compared with prior years

Health Rankings Data from countyhealthrankings.org

TENNESSEE

Overall Rank: 44

Change: ▼ 1

Determinants Rank: 45

Outcomes Rank: 43

Strengths:

- Low prevalence of excessive drinking
- High percentage of high school graduation
- Small disparity in health status by educational attainment

Challenges:

- High prevalence of smoking
- High violent crime rate
- High prevalence of frequent physical distress

Ranking:

Tennessee is 44th this year; it was 43rd in 2015. The state ranks 43rd for senior health and 42nd for the health of women and children.

Highlights:

- In the past three years, drug deaths increased 17% from 15.7 to 18.3 deaths per 100,000 population.
- In the past year, HPV immunization among females aged 13 to 17 years increased 94% from 20.1% to 38.9%.
- In the past year, Tdap immunization among adolescents aged 13 to 17 years decreased 7% from 86.0% to 79.7%.
- In the past eight years, preventable hospitalizations decreased 39% from 97.8 to 59.9 discharges per 1,000 Medicare enrollees.
- In the past two years, disparity in health status by education decreased 36% from 32.1% to 20.5%.

	Star Rating	2016 Value	2016 Rank	No. 1 State
BEHAVIORS				
Drug deaths (deaths per 100,000 population)	★★	18.3	40	4.0
Excessive Drinking (% of adults)	★★★★★	11.2	1	11.2
High School Graduation (% of students)	★★★★★	87.9	9	90.8
Obesity (% of adults)	★	33.8	42	20.2
Physical Inactivity (% of adults)	★	30.4	43	17.9
Smoking (% of adults)	★	21.9	43	9.1
Behaviors Total*	★★	-0.097	40	0.273
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT				
Air Pollution (micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter)	★★★	8.6	29	4.4
Children in Poverty (% of children)	★	22.0	41	8.0
Infectious Disease (mean z score of chlamydia, pertussis, and <i>Salmonella</i>)*	★★★	-0.170	26	-1.347
Chlamydia (cases per 100,000 population)	★★	474.0	32	254.5
Pertussis (cases per 100,000 population)	★★★★	5.1	13	1.0
<i>Salmonella</i> (cases per 100,000 population)	★★	15.4	32	6.2
Occupational Fatalities (deaths per 100,000 workers)	★★	4.9	31	2.0
Violent Crime (offenses per 100,000 population)	★	612	47	118
Community & Environment Total*	★	-0.104	45	0.290
POLICY				
Immunizations—Adolescents (mean z score of HPV, meningococcal, and Tdap)*	★	-0.803	43	1.783
HPV Females (% of females aged 13 to 17 years)	★★	38.9	31	68.0
HPV Males (% of males aged 13 to 17 years)	★	16.0	50	58.1
Meningococcal (% of adolescents aged 13 to 17 years)	★★	76.7	32	97.7
Tdap (% of adolescents aged 13 to 17 years)	★	79.7	44	97.1
Immunizations—Children (% of children aged 19 to 35 months)	★★	70.1	37	80.6
Lack of Health Insurance (% of population)	★★	11.2	34	3.1
Public Health Funding (dollars per person)	★★★★	\$84	22	\$261
Policy Total*	★★	-0.048	37	0.165
CLINICAL CARE				
Dentists (number per 100,000 population)	★★	49.6	40	81.5
Low Birthweight (% of live births)	★	9.0	43	5.9
Preventable Hospitalizations (discharges per 1,000 Medicare enrollees)	★	59.9	44	23.5
Primary Care Physicians (number per 100,000 population)	★★★	135.1	27	247.7
Clinical Care Total*	★	-0.116	43	0.170
ALL DETERMINANTS*	★	-0.365	45	0.648
OUTCOMES				
Cancer Deaths (deaths per 100,000 population)	★	215.6	45	149.3
Cardiovascular Deaths (deaths per 100,000 population)	★	302.7	45	188.2
Diabetes (% of adults)	★	12.7	45	6.8
Disparity in Health Status (% difference by high school education)	★★★★★	20.5	3	14.8
Frequent Mental Distress (% of adults)	★	14.0	46	7.1
Frequent Physical Distress (% of adults)	★	16.5	49	8.5
Infant Mortality (deaths per 1,000 live births)	★★	6.9	39	4.3
Premature Death (years lost per 100,000 population)	★	9,369	43	5,369
ALL OUTCOMES*	★	-0.262	43	0.289
OVERALL*	★	-0.626	44	0.905

*Value indicates z score. Negative scores are below US value; positive scores are above US value. For complete definitions of measures including data sources and years, see Table 5 in the 2016 Americas Health Rankings® annual report.

Report from the United Health Foundation: americashealthrankings.org/learn/reports/2016-annual-report
State Health Department Website: health.state.tn.us
 Original report from americashealthrankings.org

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Health-Related Data and Websites

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: cdc.gov
- Driving Your County to the Top Ten: tn.gov/assets/entities/health/attachments/CountyReports_RUTHERFORD.pdf
- 2014 Understanding County Health Trends: health.state.tn.us/statistics/PdfFiles/TDH_2014_Understanding_County_Health_Trends_343250.pdf
- Tennessee State Health Plan: tn.gov/health/article/state-health-plan
- Health Information Tennessee: hit.state.tn.us/index.shtml
- Healthy People 2020: healthypeople.gov
- County Health Rankings: countyhealthrankings.org
- Tennessee Department of Health: health.state.tn.us/aindex.htm
- Wellness Council of Rutherford County: rutherfordcountyttn.gov/rcwc/index.htm
- United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics bls.gov

