

Overall Rank: 40

Change: ▲4

Determinants Rank: 41

Outcomes Rank: 43

Strengths:

- Low prevalence of binge drinking
- High rate of high school graduation
- Moderate geographic disparity within the state

Challenges:

- High prevalence of smoking
- High prevalence of obesity
- High rate of preventable hospitalizations

Significant Changes:

- In the past year, the high school graduation rate increased by 6%
- In the past five years, the prevalence of obesity increased by 17%
- In the past five years, the rate of deaths from cardiovascular disease declined by 11%
- In the past ten years, the percentage of children in poverty increased by 25%

Ranking: Arkansas is 40th this year; it was 44th in 2008.

Strengths: Strengths include a low prevalence of binge drinking at 11.5 percent of the population, a high rate of high school graduation with 80.4 percent of incoming ninth graders who graduate within four years and moderate geographic disparity within the state at 10.4 percent.

Challenges: Challenges include a high prevalence of smoking at 22.3 percent of the population, a high prevalence of obesity at 29.5 percent of the population, a high occupational fatalities rate at 8.7 deaths per 100,000 workers, limited availability of primary care physicians with 98.5 primary care physicians per 100,000 population, a high premature death rate with 9,601 years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population and a high rate of cancer deaths at 213.3 deaths per 100,000 population.

Significant Changes:

- ▼ In the past year, the rate of preventable hospitalizations decreased from 92.7 to 90.2 discharges per 1,000 Medicare enrollees.

▲ In the past five years, the prevalence of obesity increased from 25.2 percent to 29.5 percent of the population.

▼ In the past five years, the rate of deaths from cardiovascular disease declined from 375.4 to 333.7 deaths per 100,000 population.

▼ In the past ten years, the prevalence of smoking decreased from 25.9 percent to 22.3 percent of the population.

Health Disparities: In Arkansas, obesity is more prevalent among non-Hispanic blacks at 38.2 percent than Hispanics at 25.8 percent and non-Hispanic whites at 27.7 percent. The prevalence of diabetes also varies by race and ethnicity in the state; 10.9 percent of non-Hispanic blacks have diabetes compared to 5.5 percent of Hispanics and 8.8 percent of non-Hispanic whites. In addition, mortality rates vary considerably in Arkansas, with 1,141.9 deaths per 100,000 population among blacks compared to Hispanics, who experience 326.9 deaths per 100,000 population.

State Health Department Web Site:

www.healthylarkansas.com

	2009		NO. 1 STATE
	VALUE	RANK	
DETERMINANTS			
BEHAVIORS			
Prevalence of Smoking (Percent of population)	22.3	43	9.3
Prevalence of Binge Drinking (Percent of population)	11.5	7	9.0
Prevalence of Obesity (Percent of population)	29.5	41	19.1
High School Graduation (Percent of incoming ninth graders)	80.4	15	87.5
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT			
Violent Crime (Offenses per 100,000 population)	503	36	118
Occupational Fatalities (Deaths per 100,000 workers)	8.7	46	3.1
Infectious Disease (Cases per 100,000 population)	15.1	29	2.4
Children in Poverty (Percent of persons under age 18)	20.8	37	8.6
Air Pollution (Micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter)	11.8	32	4.8
PUBLIC & HEALTH POLICIES			
Lack of Health Insurance (Percent without health insurance)	17.0	40	5.4
Public Health Funding (Dollars per person)	\$62	30	\$220
Immunization Coverage (Percent of children ages 19 to 35 months)	78.0	23	85.0
CLINICAL CARE			
Prenatal Care (Percent of pregnant women)*	63.4	—	—
Primary Care Physicians (Number per 100,000 population)	98.5	41	190.0
Preventable Hospitalizations (Number per 1,000 Medicare enrollees)	90.2	44	29.3
ALL DETERMINANTS			
	-0.28	41	0.83
HEALTH OUTCOMES			
Poor Mental Health Days (Days in previous 30 days)	3.4	28	2.2
Poor Physical Health Days (Days in previous 30 days)	4.0	43	2.7
Geographic Disparity (Relative standard deviation)	10.4	20	4.3
Infant Mortality (Deaths per 1,000 live births)	8.2	43	4.8
Cardiovascular Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 population)	333.7	44	212.6
Cancer Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 population)	213.3	45	144.7
Premature Death (Years lost per 100,000 population)	9,601	47	5,595
ALL HEALTH OUTCOMES			
	-0.14	43	0.35
OVERALL			
	-0.42	40	1.06

— indicates data not available. *See measure description for full details.

ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	
Unemployment Rate (Aug 2009)	7.1%
Underemployment Rate (2008)	10.2%
Median Household Income (2008)	\$39,586

