

**Ranking:** Kentucky is 41st this year; it was 39th in 2008.

**Strengths:** Strengths include a low prevalence of binge drinking at 10.1 percent of the population, a low incidence of infectious disease at 10.1 cases per 100,000 population and a low violent crime rate at 296 offenses per 100,000 population. Kentucky ranks higher for determinants than for health outcomes, indicating that overall healthiness may improve over time.

**Challenges:** Challenges include a high prevalence of smoking at 25.2 percent of the population, a high prevalence of obesity at 30.2 percent of the population, a high percentage of children in poverty at 24.4 percent of persons under age 18, a high rate of cancer deaths at 225.1 deaths per 100,000 population, a high rate of preventable hospitalizations with 106.9 discharges per 1,000 Medicare enrollees, a high rate of deaths from cardiovascular disease at 332.2 deaths per 100,000 population and high levels of air pollution at 13.1 micrograms of fine particulate per cubic meter.

**Significant Changes:**

▲ In the past year, the number of poor

mental health days per month increased from 3.7 to 4.6 days in the previous 30 days.

- ▼ In the past five years, the prevalence of smoking decreased from 30.8 percent to 25.2 percent of the population
- ▲ In the past ten years, immunization coverage increased from 59.6 percent to 76.8 percent of children ages 19 to 35 months receiving complete immunizations.
- ▲ Since 1990, the prevalence of obesity increased from 12.2 percent to 30.2 percent of the population.

**Health Disparities:** In Kentucky, obesity is more prevalent among non-Hispanic blacks at 40.5 percent than non-Hispanic whites at 28.4 percent. The prevalence of diabetes also varies by race and ethnicity in the state; 13.1 percent of non-Hispanic blacks have diabetes compared to 9.6 percent of non-Hispanic whites. In addition, mortality rates vary in Kentucky, with 1,075.2 deaths per 100,000 population among blacks compared to whites, who experience 941.6 deaths per 100,000 population.

**State Health Department Web Site:**

[www.chfs.ky.gov](http://www.chfs.ky.gov)

## Overall Rank: 41

Change: ▼ 2

Determinants Rank: 40

Outcomes Rank: 47

**Strengths:**

- Low prevalence of binge drinking
- Low incidence of infectious disease

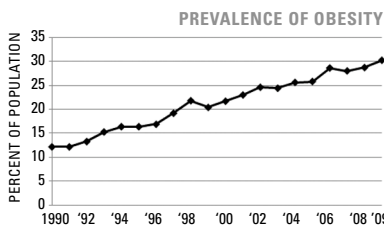
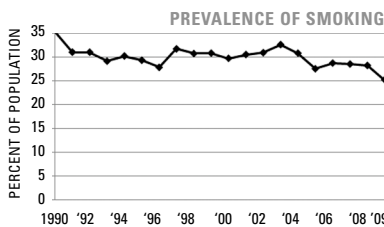
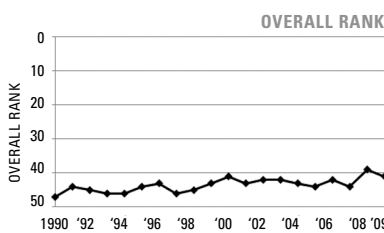
**Challenges:**

- High prevalence of smoking
- High percentage of children in poverty
- High rate of preventable hospitalizations
- High prevalence of obesity

**Significant Changes:**

- In the past year, the number of poor mental health days per month increased by 24%
- In the past five years, the prevalence of smoking declined by 18%
- In the past ten years, immunization coverage increased by 29%
- Since 1990, the prevalence of obesity increased by 148%

ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	
Unemployment Rate (Aug 2009)	11.1%
Underemployment Rate (2008)	10.8%
Median Household Income (2008)	\$41,148



DETERMINANTS	2009		NO. 1 STATE
	VALUE	RANK	
<b>BEHAVIORS</b>			
Prevalence of Smoking (Percent of population)	25.2	48	9.3
Prevalence of Binge Drinking (Percent of population)	10.1	4	9.0
Prevalence of Obesity (Percent of population)	30.2	44	19.1
High School Graduation (Percent of incoming ninth graders)	77.2	24	87.5
<b>COMMUNITY &amp; ENVIRONMENT</b>			
Violent Crime (Offenses per 100,000 population)	296	19	118
Occupational Fatalities (Deaths per 100,000 workers)	7.5	42	3.1
Infectious Disease (Cases per 100,000 population)	10.1	19	2.4
Children in Poverty (Percent of persons under age 18)	24.4	48	8.6
Air Pollution (Micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter)	13.1	41	4.8
<b>PUBLIC &amp; HEALTH POLICIES</b>			
Lack of Health Insurance (Percent without health insurance)	14.8	32	5.4
Public Health Funding (Dollars per person)	\$75	24	\$220
Immunization Coverage (Percent of children ages 19 to 35 months)	76.8	28	85.0
<b>CLINICAL CARE</b>			
Prenatal Care (Percent of pregnant women)*	72.7	—	—
Primary Care Physicians (Number per 100,000 population)	104.2	35	190.0
Preventable Hospitalizations (Number per 1,000 Medicare enrollees)	106.9	49	29.3
<b>ALL DETERMINANTS</b>			
	-0.25	40	0.83
<b>HEALTH OUTCOMES</b>			
Poor Mental Health Days (Days in previous 30 days)	4.6	50	2.2
Poor Physical Health Days (Days in previous 30 days)	4.5	49	2.7
Geographic Disparity (Relative standard deviation)	12.2	31	4.3
Infant Mortality (Deaths per 1,000 live births)	7.1	28	4.8
Cardiovascular Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 population)	332.2	43	212.6
Cancer Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 population)	225.1	50	144.7
Premature Death (Years lost per 100,000 population)	8,929	42	5,995
<b>ALL HEALTH OUTCOMES</b>			
	-0.18	47	0.35
<b>OVERALL</b>			
	-0.43	41	1.06

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