

Overall Rank: 42

Change: ▲1

Determinants Rank: 39

Outcomes Rank: 48

Strengths:

- Low prevalence of binge drinking
- High per capita public health funding
- Low violent crime rate

Challenges:

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

Significant Changes:

- In the past year, geographic disparity within the state increased by 15%
- In the past five years, the percentage of children in poverty decreased by 18%
- In the past ten years, the violent crime rate increased by 25%
- Since 1990, the prevalence of obesity increased by 113%

Ranking: West Virginia is 42nd this year; it was 43rd in 2008.

Strengths: Strengths include a low prevalence of binge drinking at 9.3 percent of the population, high public health funding at \$128 per person, a low violent crime rate at 274 offenses per 100,000 population and a low incidence of infectious disease at 9.5 cases per 100,000 population. West Virginia ranks higher for health determinants than for health outcomes, indicating that overall healthiness should improve over time.

Challenges: Challenges include a high prevalence of smoking at 26.5 percent of the population, a high prevalence of obesity at 31.9 percent of the population, many poor mental and physical health days per month at 4.5 days and 5.5 days, respectively, in the previous 30 days, high levels of air pollution at 13.6 micrograms of fine particulate per cubic meter and a high rate of preventable hospitalizations with 109.3 discharges per 1,000 Medicare enrollees.

Significant Changes:

- ▲ In the past year, geographic disparity within the state increased from 10.2 percent to 11.7 percent.
- ▼ In the past five years, the percentage of children in poverty decreased from 26.7 percent to 21.8 percent of persons under age 18.
- ▲ In the past ten years, the violent crime rate increased from 219 to 274 offenses per 100,000 population.
- ▲ Since 1990, the prevalence of obesity increased from 15.0 percent to 31.9 percent of the population.

Health Disparities: In West Virginia, smoking is more prevalent among non-Hispanic blacks at 28.3 percent than non-Hispanic whites at 26.4 percent. Mortality rates vary considerably by race and ethnicity in West Virginia, with 1,057.4 deaths per 100,000 population among blacks compared to whites, who experience 976.9 deaths per 100,000 population.

State Health Department Web Site:

www.wvdhhr.org

DETERMINANTS	BEHAVIORS	2009		NO. 1 STATE
		VALUE	RANK	
	Prevalence of Smoking (Percent of population)	26.5	50	9.3
	Prevalence of Binge Drinking (Percent of population)	9.3	2	9.0
	Prevalence of Obesity (Percent of population)	31.9	48	19.1
	High School Graduation (Percent of incoming ninth graders)	76.9	25	87.5
	COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT			
	Violent Crime (Offenses per 100,000 population)	274	15	118
	Occupational Fatalities (Deaths per 100,000 workers)	8.7	46	3.1
	Infectious Disease (Cases per 100,000 population)	9.5	15	2.4
	Children in Poverty (Percent of persons under age 18)	21.8	41	8.6
	Air Pollution (Micrograms of fine particles per cubic meter)	13.6	46	4.8
	PUBLIC & HEALTH POLICIES			
	Lack of Health Insurance (Percent without health insurance)	14.6	29	5.4
	Public Health Funding (Dollars per person)	\$128	5	\$220
	Immunization Coverage (Percent of children ages 19 to 35 months)	78.0	23	85.0
	CLINICAL CARE			
	Prenatal Care (Percent of pregnant women)*	75.7	—	—
	Primary Care Physicians (Number per 100,000 population)	104.7	34	190.0
	Preventable Hospitalizations (Number per 1,000 Medicare enrollees)	109.3	50	29.3
	ALL DETERMINANTS	-0.23	39	0.83
	HEALTH OUTCOMES			
	Poor Mental Health Days (Days in previous 30 days)	4.5	49	2.2
	Poor Physical Health Days (Days in previous 30 days)	5.5	50	2.7
	Geographic Disparity (Relative standard deviation)	11.7	29	4.3
	Infant Mortality (Deaths per 1,000 live births)	7.8	38	4.8
	Cardiovascular Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 population)	338.6	47	212.6
	Cancer Deaths (Deaths per 100,000 population)	220.6	48	144.7
	Premature Death (Years lost per 100,000 population)	9,280	44	5,595
	ALL HEALTH OUTCOMES	-0.22	48	0.35
	OVERALL	-0.45	42	1.06

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

ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	
Unemployment Rate (Aug 2009)	9.0%
Underemployment Rate (2008)	9.1%
Median Household Income (2008)	\$37,994

