USING THE *RANKINGS* DATA

The Using the *Rankings* Tool (http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/using-the-rankings-data) helps you navigate the information in your county's snapshot and identify key areas where you may wish to look for additional data. It also directs you to additional national and state data sources.

Directions

- Find your county's snapshot at www.countyhealthrankings.org.[1]
- Use your snapshot and the Using the *Rankings* Tool to review your county's data.
- Record your notes and additional questions here.

EXPLORING THE DATA

We provide a variety of ways of exploring, comparing, and visualizing the *Rankings* and all of the underlying data. Take a moment to get acquainted with the types of data included in your snapshot. We've included short descriptions here, but you can read more detail in the Exploring the Data section of Using the *Rankings* Data.

- **Trends:** We've included trend graphs for 12 measures (click on the graph in the **Trend** column of your county's snapshot). Most of the charts are based on multiple-year rolling averages for the county, state and nation. The color on the line in the icon shows the direction of the measures in your county.
- **Top U.S. Performers:** This is the point at which only 10% of counties in the nation do better. (It is NOT the U.S. average.)
- **Error Margins:** Each measure has a confidence interval or error margin surrounding it—if a measure is above the state average AND the state average is beyond the error margin for your county, then further investigation is recommended. Likewise, if a measure is below the state average AND the state average is below the error margin for your county, this is a measure of strength in your community.
- **Data and Measures:** If you click on a measure's name in a county snapshot, you can see more information about that measure.
- **Areas to Explore:** Highlight potential challenges your community may want to examine more closely.
- **Compare Counties:** You can compare ranks and measures for multiple counties within a state.

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[1] *To find your snapshot, go to www.countyhealthrankings.org and select your state and then your county. You will see the county's "data snapshot."*

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SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

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County Health Rankings & Roadmaps
Building a Culture of Health, County by County

MAKING USE OF YOUR SNAPSHOT

Health Outcomes

Notes

How does your county rank?

**How do these measures compare to state averages?
To Top U.S. Performers?**

Premature Death

Poor or fair health

Poor physical health days

Poor mental health days

Low birthweight

**Where is your county doing well?
How might this differ for your city?**

**Where might your county need to improve?
How might this differ for your city?**

Health Factors

Explore each of the four health factors. Begin with looking at the overall rank of this health factor and then look at specific measures. How do these measures compare to state averages? To Top U.S. Performers?

Health Factor 1: Social and Economic Factors (40% weight)

How does your county rank in this health factor? _____

	Notes
Measure 1:	
Measure 2:	
Measure 3:	
Measure 4:	
Measure 5:	
Measure 6:	

Health Factor 2: Health Behaviors (30% weight)

How does your county rank in this health factor? _____

	Notes
Measure 1:	
Measure 2:	
Measure 3:	
Measure 4:	
Measure 5:	
Measure 6:	

Note: Some health factors have fewer than six measures, so you may not need to fill in all measures spaces.

Where is your county doing well? How might this differ for your city?

Where might your county need to improve? How might this differ for your city?

Turn on the Areas to Explore. How do the highlighted measures compare with your findings?

DIGGING DEEPER

What other information would help you further understand health in your community?

What other groups might you categorize data by? What measures are available for those groups?

BROADEN YOUR VIEW

Consider what you learned from your county's snapshot. What other questions might you want to ask to better understand your community's health factors?

Health Behaviors	
Clinical Care	
Social & Economic Factors	
Physical Environment	

VISUALIZE THE DATA

Explore one mapping tool that relates to your county's data. What did you find?

FINDING MORE DATA

Where might you start to find more data? Which state or national data sources might be most helpful?

National Data Sources	State Data Sources

What data might you need to collect locally? (e.g., via surveys, interviews, etc.)