

# California

State Health Department Website: [cdph.ca.gov](https://cdph.ca.gov)

Overall Rank:

17

## Summary

### Strengths:

- Low infant mortality rate
- High WIC coverage among eligible children ages 0-4
- Low prevalence of cigarette smoking among women

### Challenges:

- High prevalence of illicit drug use among youth
- High prevalence of students experiencing homelessness
- Low prevalence of well-woman visits

### Highlights:

#### ANXIETY

▲92%

from 3.8% to 7.3% of children ages 3-17 between 2017-2018 and 2020-2021.

#### TEEN BIRTHS

▼42%

from 19.0 to 11.0 births per 1,000 females ages 15-19 between 2015 and 2020.

#### MORTALITY

▲25%

from 68.4 to 85.6 deaths per 100,000 women ages 20-44 between 2019 and 2020.

#### AVERAGE VOTER PARTICIPATION

▲25%

from 48.3% to 60.2% of female U.S. citizens ages 18 and older between the 2014/2016 and 2018/2020 elections.

## Women

Measures	Rating	State Rank	State Value	U.S. Value
<b>SOCIAL &amp; ECONOMIC FACTORS*</b>	++	36	-0.195	—
<b>Community and Family Safety</b>				
Firearm Deaths†	—	—	2.4	5.1
Intimate Partner Violence Before Pregnancy†	—	—	—	2.5%
Violent Crime	++	39	441	379
<b>Economic Resources</b>				
Concentrated Disadvantage	+	43	31.5%	26.1%
Food Insecurity	++++	18	9.8%	10.7%
Gender Pay Gap†	+++++	3	87.5%	81.0%
Poverty	++++	13	13.5%	15.2%
Unemployment	+	48	11.0%	8.3%
<b>Education</b>				
College Graduate	+++	27	34.9%	35.6%
<b>Social Support and Engagement</b>				
Infant Child Care Cost†	+	50	16.7%	12.0%
Residential Segregation — Black/White	++++	20	63	—
Voter Participation	++	31	60.2%	61.7%
<b>PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT*</b>				
<b>Air and Water Quality</b>				
Air Pollution	+	50	13.3	8.3
Drinking Water Violations	+++++	1	0.0%	0.8%
Household Smoke	+++++	4	9.2%	13.8%
Risk-screening Environmental Indicators Score	++	35	5,953,461	—
Water Fluoridation	++	36	59.3%	73.0%
<b>Climate Change</b>				
Climate Change Policies†	+++++	1	4	—
Transportation Energy Use†	+++++	5	6.0	7.4
<b>Housing and Transportation</b>				
Drive Alone to Work	+++++	9	72.4%	75.4%
Housing With Lead Risk	+++	28	17.6%	17.6%
Severe Housing Problems	+	49	26.2%	17.3%

## Children

Measures	Rating	State Rank	State Value	U.S. Value
<b>SOCIAL &amp; ECONOMIC FACTORS*</b>	++++	17	0.197	—
<b>Community and Family Safety</b>				
Child Victimization†	+++	21	6.9%	8.4%
Firearm Deaths†	—	—	2.6	4.7
<b>Economic Resources</b>				
Children in Poverty	+++	27	15.6%	16.8%
Children in Poverty Racial Disparity	+++	23	3.3	3.0
High-speed Internet	++++	14	94.2%	92.6%
Students Experiencing Homelessness	+	49	4.0%	2.5%
WIC Coverage	+++++	3	66.7%	54.6%
<b>Education</b>				
Early Childhood Education	++++	16	50.3%	48.9%
Fourth Grade Reading Proficiency	++	37	32.1%	34.3%
High School Graduation	++	31	84.5%	85.8%
High School Graduation Racial Disparity	+++	21	13.4	15.1
<b>Social Support and Engagement</b>				
Adverse Childhood Experiences	+++++	6	12.0%	14.0%
Foster Care Instability	+++++	10	11.1%	14.9%
Neighborhood Amenities	+++++	5	49.0%	35.5%
Reading, Singing or Storytelling	++	35	55.5%	57.2%
<b>PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT*</b>	+	45	-0.359	—
<b>Air and Water Quality</b>				
Air Pollution	+	50	13.3	8.3
Drinking Water Violations	+++++	1	0.0%	0.8%
Household Smoke	+++++	4	9.2%	13.8%
Risk-screening Environmental Indicators Score	++	35	5,953,461	—
Water Fluoridation	++	36	59.3%	73.0%
<b>Climate Change</b>				
Climate Change Policies†	+++++	1	4	—
Transportation Energy Use†	+++++	5	6.0	7.4
<b>Housing and Transportation</b>				
Drive Alone to Work	+++++	9	72.4%	75.4%
Housing With Lead Risk	+++	28	17.6%	17.6%
Severe Housing Problems	+	49	26.2%	17.3%

Rating	Rank
+++++	1-10
++++	11-20
+++	21-30
++	31-40
+	41-50

## Women

Measures	Rating	State Rank	State Value	U.S. Value
<b>CLINICAL CARE*</b>	<b>+++</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0.288</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Access to Care</b>				
Adequate Prenatal Care	++	35	74.5%	74.7%
Avoided Care Due to Cost	++++	16	14.1%	17.5%
Publicly-funded Women's Health Services	+++++	2	64%	29%
Uninsured	+++	21	10.0%	12.9%
Women's Health Providers	++	31	45.5	49.5
<b>Preventive Clinical Care</b>				
Cervical Cancer Screening	++++	14	78.9%	77.1%
Dental Visit	+	44	61.4%	65.5%
Flu Vaccination	++	36	37.3%	38.9%
Postpartum Visit†	—	—	—	88.4%
Well-woman Visit	+	46	66.3%	72.0%
<b>Quality of Care</b>				
Breastfeeding Initiation†	—	—	—	83.9%
Dedicated Health Care Provider	++	40	69.3%	71.1%
Low-risk Cesarean Delivery	++++	19	24.0%	25.9%
Maternity Practices Score	+++++	2	87	81
<b>BEHAVIORS*</b>	<b>+++++</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.560</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Nutrition and Physical Activity</b>				
Exercise	++	32	20.9%	21.5%
Fruit and Vegetable Consumption	++++	15	11.4%	10.4%
Physical Inactivity	+++	29	21.8%	22.3%
<b>Sexual Health</b>				
Chlamydia	++++	14	1,311.3	1,552.8
High-risk HIV Behaviors	+++	26	9.7%	9.6%
Unintended Pregnancy†	—	—	—	28.5%
<b>Sleep Health</b>				
Insufficient Sleep	+++++	8	29.3%	33.4%
<b>Tobacco Use</b>				
E-cigarette Use†	—	—	—	7.6%
Smoking	+++++	2	7.0%	13.4%
Smoking During Pregnancy	+++++	1	1.0%	5.5%
<b>HEALTH OUTCOMES*</b>	<b>+++++</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.581</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Behavioral Health</b>				
Drug Deaths†	+++++	3	10.6	22.4
Excessive Drinking	++++	20	18.9%	19.4%
Frequent Mental Distress	+++++	3	15.8%	19.4%
Illicit Drug Use	++	31	11.3%	10.8%
Postpartum Depression†	—	—	—	13.6%
<b>Mortality</b>				
Maternal Mortality†	—	—	8.4	19.3
Mortality Rate	+++++	3	85.6	117.3
<b>Physical Health</b>				
Frequent Physical Distress	++++	12	6.8%	7.5%
High Blood Pressure	++++	17	9.5%	10.6%
High Health Status†	+	42	53.7%	57.4%
Multiple Chronic Conditions	+++++	6	2.9%	4.1%
Obesity	+++++	10	26.1%	30.4%
Severe Maternal Morbidity†	—	—	99.4	81.0
<b>OVERALL — WOMEN*</b>	<b>++++</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.179</b>	<b>—</b>

\* Value is a summation score. Higher scores are better.

† Non-ranking measure.

— Indicates data missing or suppressed.

For measure descriptions, source details and methodology, visit [www.AmericasHealthRankings.org](http://www.AmericasHealthRankings.org).

## Children

Measures	Rating	State Rank	State Value	U.S. Value
<b>CLINICAL CARE*</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>-0.229</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Access to Care</b>				
ADD/ADHD Treatment	+	48	1.3%	2.8%
Pediatricians	++++	20	103.8	107.2
Uninsured	++++	14	3.6%	5.7%
<b>Preventive Clinical Care</b>				
Childhood Immunizations	++	38	68.6%	70.5%
HPV Vaccination	++++	18	62.3%	58.6%
Preventive Dental Care	++	34	74.3%	75.1%
Well-child Visit	+	49	68.7%	76.7%
<b>Quality of Care</b>				
Adequate Insurance	++++	16	71.1%	68.2%
Developmental Screening	++	31	34.4%	34.8%
Medical Home	+	45	41.3%	46.0%
<b>BEHAVIORS*</b>	<b>++++</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0.570</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Nutrition and Physical Activity</b>				
Breastfed	++++	20	27.3%	24.9%
Food Sufficiency	+++++	10	75.6%	71.9%
Physical Activity	+	46	17.3%	20.5%
Soda Consumption — Youth†	—	—	9.0%	9.3%
<b>Sexual Health — Youth</b>				
Dual Contraceptive Nonuse†	—	—	88.1%	90.9%
Teen Births	++++	12	11.0	15.4
<b>Sleep Health</b>				
Adequate Sleep	+++++	7	72.9%	66.6%
Sleep Position†	—	—	—	80.2%
<b>Tobacco Use — Youth</b>				
Electronic Vapor Product Use†	—	—	18.2%	32.7%
Tobacco Use	+++++	2	1.9%	3.1%
<b>HEALTH OUTCOMES*</b>	<b>+++++</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0.382</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Behavioral Health</b>				
Alcohol Use — Youth	+++	25	8.9%	8.8%
Anxiety	+++++	4	7.3%	9.2%
Depression	+++	22	4.3%	4.2%
Flourishing	++++	14	67.5%	66.6%
Illicit Drug Use — Youth	+	42	9.7%	7.7%
Teen Suicide†	—	—	6.6	10.8
<b>Mortality</b>				
Child Mortality	+++++	7	20.0	25.9
Infant Mortality	+++++	4	4.2	5.6
<b>Physical Health</b>				
Asthma	+++++	4	5.3%	6.9%
High Health Status†	+	45	88.5%	90.2%
Low Birthweight	+++++	6	6.9%	8.2%
Low Birthweight Racial Disparity	++	37	2.1	2.0
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome†	—	—	2.4	6.1
Overweight or Obesity — Youth	++	38	34.8%	33.5%
<b>OVERALL — CHILDREN*</b>	<b>++++</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0.154</b>	<b>—</b>

<b>OVERALL — WOMEN AND CHILDREN*</b>	<b>++++</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0.218</b>	<b>—</b>
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