### West Virginia

**Behaviors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Star Rating</th>
<th>2016 Value</th>
<th>2016 Rank</th>
<th>Least Healthy US Value</th>
<th>Most Healthy State Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug Deaths (deaths per 100,000 population)</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>32.2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>32.2</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive Drinking (% of adults)</td>
<td>*****</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduation (% of students)</td>
<td>*****</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>68.6</td>
<td>90.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity (% of adults)</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>35.6</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>36.2</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Inactivity (% of adults)</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>36.8</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking (% of adults)</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Community & Environment**

- Infant Mortality (deaths per 1,000 live births)
- Frequent Physical Distress (% of adults)
- Dentists (number per 100,000 population)
- Immunizations—Children (% of children aged 19 to 35 months)
- Occupational Fatalities (deaths per 100,000 workers)
- Children in Poverty (% of children)
- Physical Inactivity (% of adults)
- Immunizations—Adolescents (mean z score of vaccines listed below)*
- HPV Females (% of females aged 13 to 17 years)
- HPV Males (% of males aged 13 to 17 years)
- Meningococcal (% of adolescents aged 13 to 17 years)
- Tdap (% of adolescents aged 13 to 17 years)
- Pertussis (cases per 100,000 population)
- Salmondella (cases per 100,000 population)

**Outcomes**

- Cancer Deaths (deaths per 100,000 population)
- Cardiovascular Deaths (deaths per 100,000 population)
- Diabetes (% of adults)
- Disparity in Health Status (% difference by high school education)**
- Frequent Mental Distress (% of adults)
- Frequent Physical Distress (% of adults)
- Infant Mortality (deaths per 1,000 live births)
- Premature Death (years lost per 100,000 population)
- Overall Outcomes Total* |

**Policy**

- Immunizations—Adolescents (mean z score of vaccines listed below)*
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### Highlights

- In the past three years, drug deaths increased 46% from 22.0 to 32.2 deaths per 100,000 population.
- In the past year, high school graduation increased 6% from 81.4% to 86.5% of students.
- In the past year, the percentage of the population without health insurance decreased 35% from 11.3% to 7.3%.
- In the past year, public health funding increased 7% from $120 to $205 per person.
- In the past 10 years, premature death increased 9% from 9,384 to 10,245 years lost per 100,000 population.

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*Value indicates z score. Negative value denotes below US average; positive value denotes above US average.

**Strengths**

- Low prevalence of excessive drinking
- Low incidence of infectious disease
- Low percentage of population without insurance

**Challenges**

- High rate of drug deaths
- High prevalence of smoking
- Low immunization coverage among children
Smoking is regarded as a public health success story in the last 50 years. However, success varies by state and education level. These graphs show the prevalence of smoking over the past four years for the US and for your state. The graph to the right represents your state comparison and the four graphs below show the variation by education level. Overall, smoking prevalence among US adults aged 18 years and older is decreasing each year. However, success in reducing smoking prevalence varies by group. In some states smoking prevalence is increasing among adults with less education.

Obesity is a public health challenge nationwide. These graphs show the prevalence of obesity over the past four years for the US and for your state. The graph to the right represents your state comparison and the four graphs below show the variation by education level. Overall, obesity prevalence among US adults aged 18 years and older is increasing at an average annual rate of 0.6% per year. However, the prevalence of obesity is not increasing at the same rate in each group—in several states obesity prevalence is decreasing among adults in some education levels.
Cardiovascular Deaths and Premature Deaths: No improvement nationwide

Drug Deaths: Rapidly evolving challenge

Lack of Health Insurance: Reached a 27 year low
Frequent Distress: Impact varies widely across the various subpopulation groups

Frequent mental distress captures the segment of the population experiencing persistent and likely severe mental health issues. The measure is the percentage of adults who report their mental health was not good 14 or more days in the past 30 days. The 14-day period is often the marker used for clinical diagnosis of depression and anxiety disorders, and a longer duration of symptoms is associated with greater limitation of activity.

The frequent physical distress measure captures the population experiencing persistent and likely severe physical health problems. It is the percentage of adults who report their physical health was not good 14 or more days in the past 30 days.

** Graphs without a state value (blue diamond) indicate that there is insufficient data to estimate the prevalence.