

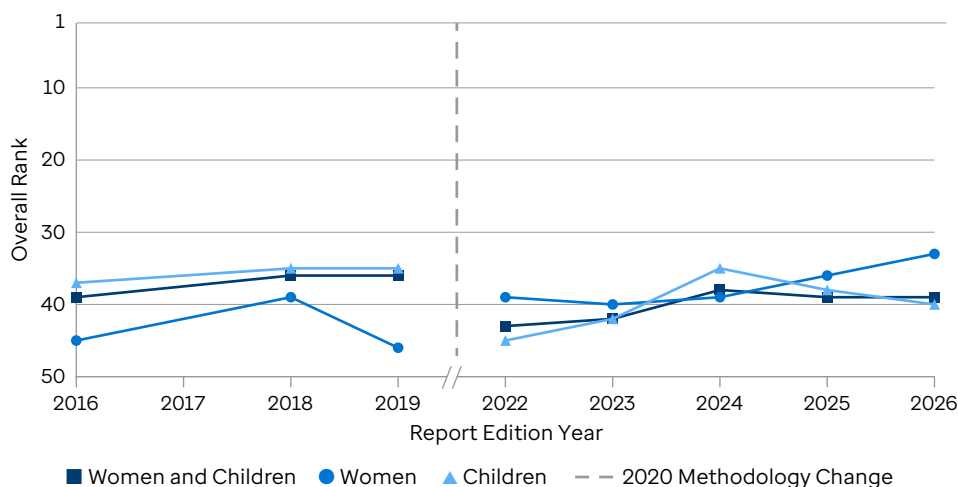
10 Years of Data

State rankings capture a decade of insights into women's and children's health.

Rankings are calculated using the sum of the z-scores of all weighted measures.

Source: America's Health Rankings composite measure, 2016-2026.

Note: No edition was published in 2017. The model methodology changed starting with the 2020 edition. Rankings were not published in the 2020 and 2021 editions. Children's rankings did not include infant measures until 2020.



Summary

Strengths

- High prevalence of youth who are flourishing
- Low prevalence of public school students experiencing homelessness
- High prevalence of cervical cancer screening

Challenges

- High infant mortality rate
- Low prevalence of infants exclusively breastfed for six months
- High prevalence of unemployment among women

Key Findings

Developmental Screening

75%▲

from 24.8% to 43.3% of children ages 9-35 months between 2016-2017 and 2023-2024.

Cigarette Smoking During Pregnancy

74%▼

from 9.8% to 2.5% of women with a recent live birth between 2015 and 2024.

Severe Maternal Morbidity

46%▲

from 69.8 to 102.2 complications per 10,000 delivery hospitalizations between 2016 and 2023.

Child Mortality

30%▲

from 28.5 to 37.1 deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-19 between 2012-2014 and 2022-2024.

Measures

Women and Children

	State Rank	State Value	U.S. Value
Physical Environment	20	0.171	
Air and Water Quality	Air Pollution	8.4	8.8
	Drinking Water Violations	1.9	2.5
	Household Smoke	12.4%	10.3%
	Water Fluoridation	92.0%	72.3%
Climate and Health	Climate Policies	1	—
	Transportation Energy Use*	8.7	8.3
Housing and Transportation	Drive Alone to Work - Women	73.2%	67.4%
	Housing Cost Burden - Households With Children	24.1%	27.7%
	Housing With Lead Risk	8.4%	16.1%

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Measures (cont.)

Women		State Rank	State Value	U.S. Value
Social and Economic Factors		36	-0.298	
Community and Family Safety	Firearm Deaths*	39	10.1	5.9
	Injury Deaths	44	68.0	47.0
	Intimate Partner Violence Before Pregnancy*	—	—	—
Economic Resources	Concentrated Disadvantage	37	276%	25.8%
	Food Insecurity	35	13.5%	13.3%
	Gender Pay Gap*	25	82.3%	83.0%
	Poverty	39	16.0%	14.4%
	Unemployment	46	4.7%	3.9%
Education	College Graduate	40	34.3%	39.0%
Social Support and Engagement	Infant Child Care Affordability*	—	—	12%
	Residential Segregation - Black/White	2	48	—
	Voter Participation	43	54.3%	60.0%
Clinical Care		38	-0.228	
Access to Care	Adequate Prenatal Care	15	79.4%	75.0%
	Avoided Care Due to Cost	43	22.0%	18.5%
	Maternity Care Desert*	22	2.2	3.5
	Uninsured	39	13.5%	11.2%
	Women's Health Providers	40	41.3	48.1
Preventive Clinical Care	Cervical Cancer Screening	7	72.5%	69.7%
	Dental Visit	41	63.7%	65.6%
	Flu Vaccination	45	27.0%	33.9%
	Postpartum Visit*	38	88.6%	90.3%
	Well-Woman Visit	30	73.8%	73.4%
Quality of Care	Breastfeeding Initiation	39	81.3%	85.4%
	Dedicated Health Care Provider	44	75.7%	77.9%
	Low-Risk Cesarean Delivery	23	25.2%	26.6%
	Maternity Practices Score	30	80	82
Behaviors		28	-0.145	
Nutrition and Physical Activity	Exercise	7	30.9%	27.6%
	Fruit and Vegetable Consumption	20	9.9%	9.8%
	Physical Inactivity	31	21.4%	22.0%
Sexual Health	Chlamydia	47	2,052.3	1,481.2
	High-Risk HIV Behaviors	31	8.9%	8.5%
	Unintended Pregnancy*	—	—	—
Sleep Health	Insufficient Sleep	32	37.3%	36.5%
Smoking and Tobacco Use	Cigarette Smoking	23	9.7%	8.4%
	Cigarette Smoking During Pregnancy	21	2.5%	2.4%
	E-Cigarette Use	24	12.7%	11.7%
Health Outcomes		30	-0.317	
Behavioral Health	Drug Deaths*	40	35.6	25.0
	Excessive Drinking	29	19.0%	18.1%
	Frequent Mental Distress	12	22.3%	23.2%
	Illicit Drug Use	6	8.2%	10.5%
	Postpartum Anxiety*	11	18.3%	20.3%
	Postpartum Depression*	10	10.5%	11.9%
Mortality	Maternal Mortality*	40	30.3	23.1
	Mortality Rate	40	134.3	98.0
Physical Health	Depression*	16	31.0%	30.6%
	Diabetes*	41	4.4%	3.6%
	Frequent Physical Distress	17	9.5%	10.1%
	High Blood Pressure	34	12.7%	11.8%
	High Health Status*	13	52.6%	49.4%
	Multiple Chronic Conditions	31	5.7%	4.5%
	Obesity	35	36.8%	32.6%
	Severe Maternal Morbidity*	30	102.2	97.8
Overall - Women		33	-0.166	

SC Overall - Women and Children

* Unweighted measure that does not contribute to a state's overall rank.
 — Data not available, missing or suppressed.

Children		State Rank	State Value	U.S. Value
Social and Economic Factors		38	-0.370	
Community and Family Safety	Child Victimization*	35	10.8	7.2
	Firearm Deaths*	39	9.1	5.5
	Injury Deaths	39	24.7	17.8
Economic Resources	Children in Poverty	41	18.3%	15.5%
	Children in Poverty - Racial Disparity	18	3.1	3.0
	Food Sufficiency	36	63.5%	66.6%
	Students Experiencing Homelessness	10	2.0%	3.2%
	WIC Coverage	40	43.7%	54.5%
Education	Early Childhood Education	21	48.2%	49.3%
	Fourth Grade Reading Proficiency	14	32.5%	30.5%
	High School Completion	29	91.0%	89.9%
Social Support and Engagement	Adult Mentor*	28	90.4%	88.0%
	Adverse Childhood Experiences	20	14.5%	14.1%
	Foster Care Instability	49	35.7%	18.7%
	High-Speed Internet	28	96.7%	96.6%
	Neighborhood Amenities	48	18.1%	38.2%
	Reading, Singing or Storytelling*	39	57.2%	59.7%
Clinical Care		28	0.147	
Access to Care	ADD/ADHD Treatment	11	4.3%	3.4%
	Mental Health Treatment*	38	82.2%	83.3%
	Pediatricians	26	106.6	118.2
	Uninsured	30	5.9%	6.0%
Preventive Clinical Care	Childhood Immunizations	30	68.0%	68.0%
	HPV Vaccination	36	59.5%	62.9%
	Preventive Dental Visit	27	80.8%	80.2%
	Well-Child Visit	30	79.9%	79.6%
Quality of Care	Adequate Insurance	26	64.3%	64.6%
	Developmental Screening	16	43.3%	36.5%
	Medical Home	28	47.4%	45.5%
Behaviors		44	-0.810	
Nutrition and Physical Activity	Breastfed	47	22.7%	27.9%
	Physical Activity	30	19.9%	19.7%
	Soda Consumption*	—	—	7.5%
Sexual Health	Dual Contraceptive Nonuse*	—	—	85.6%
	Teen Births	40	17.4	12.6
Sleep Health	Adequate Sleep	43	60.0%	65.3%
	Sleep Position*	40	65.9%	69.0%
Smoking and Tobacco Use	Electronic Vapor Product Use*	—	—	16.8%
	Tobacco Use	31	2.3%	1.9%
Health Outcomes		44	-0.635	
Behavioral Health	Alcohol Use	33	7.4%	6.8%
	Flourishing	7	68.1%	66.7%
	Illicit Drug Use	31	8.0%	7.4%
	Mental Health Conditions	32	23.3%	20.5%
	Teen Suicide*	8	7.8	9.7
Mortality	Child Mortality	39	37.1	28.7
	Infant Mortality	40	6.9	5.6
	Neonatal Mortality*	42	4.4	3.6
Physical Health	Asthma	23	6.7%	6.8%
	Congenital Syphilis*	20	51.9	105.8
	High Health Status*	28	90.5%	89.9%
	Low Birth Weight	43	9.7%	8.5%
	Low Birth Weight - Racial Disparity	47	2.3	2.1
	Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome*	21	5.4	5.1
	Overweight or Obesity	44	35.5%	31.3%
Overall - Children		40	-0.333	

SC Overall - Women and Children