



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Frederick County Health Department

Media Advisory

CONTACT: Dr. Barbara Brookmyer
Health Officer
301-600-1029
TTY: Use Maryland Relay
Bbrookmyer@FrederickCountyMD.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MARCH 16, 2016

FREDERICK COUNTY RANKS 3RD BEST IN STATE FOR HEALTH BEHAVIORS

FREDERICK, MD -- A new report released today examines the health and well-being of people living in nearly every county in the United States and finds that Frederick County ranks third best compared to other Maryland counties in multiple areas, such as health behaviors, length of life, and social & economic factors.

The 2016 *County Health Rankings* rely on a robust set of data and analysis that allows counties to see what it is that makes residents sick or healthy, and how they compare to other counties in the same state. This is the seventh year of the *Rankings*, published online at <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org> by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute (UWPHI). The *Rankings* data lays the groundwork for health improvement efforts of elected officials, local health departments, health care providers, business leaders, and citizens across the country.

The *County Health Rankings* explores the factors beyond just access to medical care that impact how long and how well people live. It examines 35 indicators that influence health, including rates of childhood poverty, rates of smoking, obesity levels, access to physicians and dentists, rates of high school graduation and college attendance, and levels of physical inactivity.

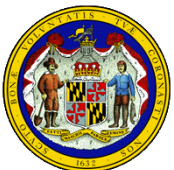
“Frederick County’s rank of 3rd best in health behaviors, length of life and social & economic factors in Maryland is a testimony to the quality of health services and public-private partnership engagement in addressing social determinants of health,” stated Dr. Barbara Brookmyer, Frederick County Health Officer. “It reinforces the fact that Frederick County is a great place to live, work, and play,” she added.

--more--

Barbara A. Brookmyer, M.D., M.P.H. ▪ Health Officer

350 Montevue Lane ▪ Frederick, MD 21702

Phone: 301-600-1029 ▪ Fax: 301-600-3111 ▪ MD TTY: 1-800-735-2258





Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Frederick County Health Department

FREDERICK COUNTY RANKS 3RD / Page 2

The *County Health Rankings* report highlighted many areas of strength in Frederick County, such as access to exercise opportunities, low teen births, low percentage of uninsured residents, as well as social and economic factors such as high school graduation, college, children in poverty and income inequality. While Frederick County's overall rank is very favorable, the report also identified adult obesity, sexually transmitted infections, and mammogram screening as areas to explore for improvement. Additional opportunities include reducing alcohol-impaired driving deaths. Excessive or binge drinking in the past 30 days was reported by 18% of Frederick County adults and is a current focus of improvement efforts of the Behavioral Health Services Division of the Frederick County Health Department.

The [Frederick County Health Care Coalition](#) also monitors the *County Health Rankings* and uses the *County Health Rankings* annual update to inform the efforts of its work groups focused on addressing priorities for local health improvement.

For further information contact Dr. Barbara Brookmyer, Health Officer, at the Frederick County Health Department at 301-600-1029 or via e-mail at Bbrookmyer@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

Like the [Frederick County Health Department](#) on Facebook, , and follow us on Twitter, .

###