



NEWS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

VALERIE A. ARKOOSH, MD, MPH, CHAIR
KENNETH E. LAWRENCE, JR., VICE CHAIR
JOSEPH C. GALE, COMMISSIONER

Contact:

Lorie Slass, Communications Director 610-278-3061 lslass@montcopa.org
Kaitlyn Foti, Press Secretary 610-278-3062 kfoti@montcopa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 29, 2017



Montgomery County Ranked #1 in a Number of Health Measures in New Report Report also highlights areas for improvement

Norristown, PA (March 29, 2017) – The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation issued its annual nationwide health rankings and among the 67 counties in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Montgomery County ranks first in a number of important health measures.

Across the entire state, Montgomery County is first in Health Factors – which according to the report examine “what influences the health of a county. They are an estimate of the future health of counties as compared to other counties within a state.” Health Factors examine a number of sub-measures to determine overall ranking.

The county was ranked fourth in Health Outcomes, which looks at the current snapshot of health and is compiled from “two types of measures: how long people live and how healthy people feel while alive.”

Among sub-measures, Montgomery County was ranked first in Quality of Life, Health Behaviors, Social & Economic Factors and second in Clinical Care. The county fared poorly in the measure of physical environment, ranking 44th. That category is made up of measures including air pollution, drinking water safety, and residents’ commuting experiences.

“We are especially proud that we lead the rankings in areas in which our county health services have a direct influence– reducing rates of smoking, obesity, food insecurity, teen pregnancy, children in poverty, and sexually transmitted disease,” said Dr. Valerie Arkoosh, Chair, Montgomery County Board of Commissioners. “The report showcases that investments in these areas yields real rewards and that we, as a nation and a county, must continue to fund those programs that support the health and well-being of Montgomery County residents.”

The report comparing Pennsylvania counties can be found here:

http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/sites/default/files/state/downloads/CHR2017_PA.pdf

To learn more about Montgomery County Health Services, please visit the county Health Department [website](#).