

Prince George's County 2017 County Health Rankings

The annual Robert Wood Johnson Foundation *County Health Rankings*ⁱ measures both **health factors** and **health outcomes**. Health factors focus on behaviors, access to health care, the environment, and socioeconomic factors which affect the health of the population and contribute to their health outcomes, such as length and quality of life. Both health factors and health outcomes are used to “rank” the counties within each state. This document provides an overview of Prince George’s County’s rank compared to the other jurisdictions in Maryland, and also provides information about the indicators used to create the rankings.

It’s important to keep in mind that while the current health ranking is dated 2017, the data used to create the ranking is usually at least three years old so it will not reflect any recent changes in the county. Also, the rankings are only based on a comparison to other Maryland counties, they do not consider trends over time within the county. So while we may have improved within the county over the years, we could still have a lower ranking if we trail the other jurisdictions.

Rank	Jurisdiction
1	Montgomery
2	Howard
3	Carroll
4	Frederick
5	Talbot
6	Calvert
7	Queen Anne’s
8	St. Mary’s
9	Hartford
10	Worcester
11	Anne Arundel
12	Charles
13	Baltimore
14	Prince George’s
15	Cecil
16	Garrett
17	Washington
18	Kent
19	Allegany
20	Wicomico
21	Caroline
22	Somerset
23	Dorchester
24	Baltimore City

Prince George’s County Health Rankings (out of 24 jurisdictions)

Multiple indicators are included in these key summary measures

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Overall Ranking	16	17	16	16	14
Health Outcomes	16	17	16	16	14
Length of Life	18	18	19	15	15
Quality of Life	13	14	13	18	17
Health Factors	17	14	15	16	16
Health Behaviors	9	8	9	11	11
Clinical Care	20	21	23	23	23
Social & Economic Factors	17	15	16	17	16
Physical Environment	21	12	13	8	6

2017 Rankings: Prince George’s County Successes

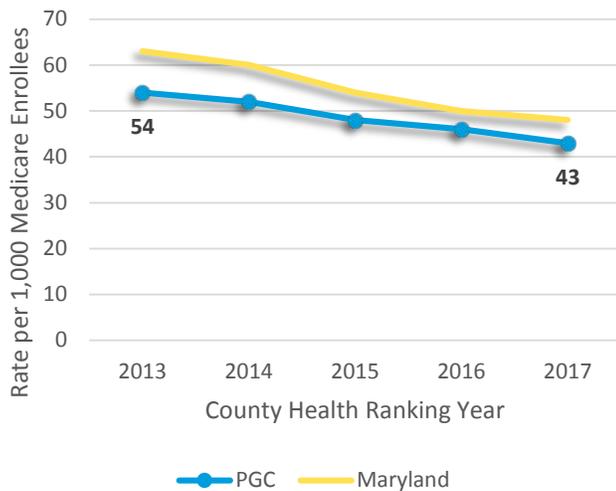
Indicator	Rank (out of 24)	PGC Value	MD Value
Preventable Hospital Stays	3	43 per 10,000	46 per 10,000
Injury Death Rate	3	45 per 100,000	58 per 100,000
Poor Mental Health Days	4	3.1	3.4
Adults who Smoke	4	13%	15%
Excessive Drinking	5	15%	15%
Income Inequality Ratio	5	3.7	4.5

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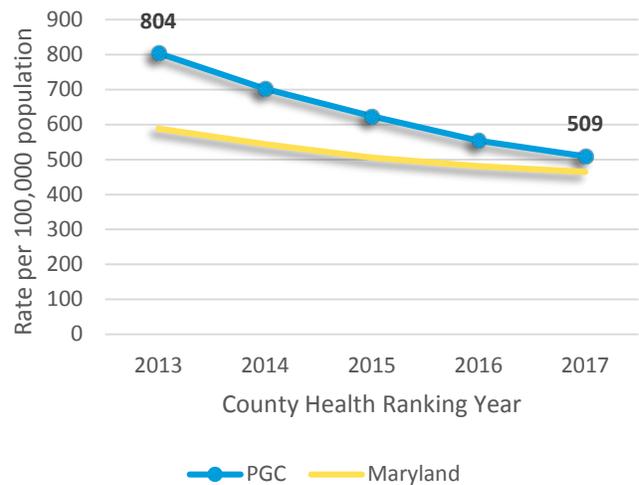
Positive Trends

Prince George's County has improved for many of the indicators included in the Rankings. For example, the premature death rate has dropped by 12%, and the teen birth rate dropped by 17% since the 2013 Rankings. While Prince George's County currently ranks 23 out of 24 in the state for the rate of violent crime, the rate has dropped by 37% since the 2013 Rankings, showing a marked improvement.

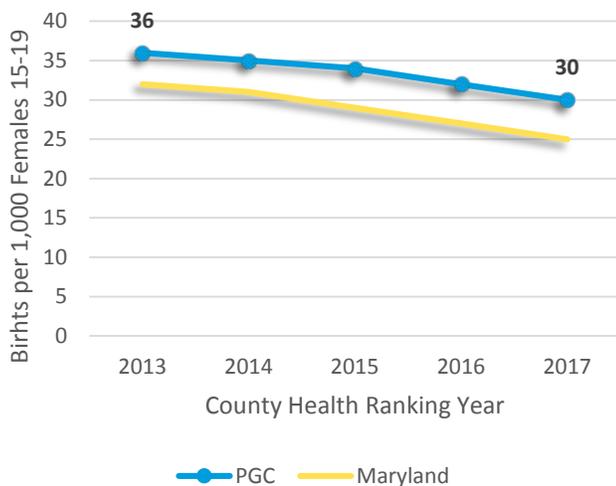
Preventable Hospital Stay Rate in Prince George's County Compared to Maryland 2013-2017



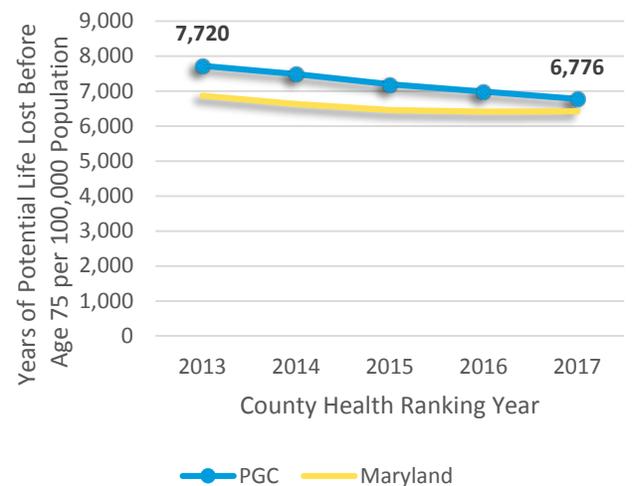
Violent Crime Rate in Prince George's County Compared to Maryland 2013-2017



Teen Birth Rate in Prince George's County Compared to Maryland 2013-2017



Premature Death Rate in Prince George's County Compared to Maryland 2013-2017



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Areas for Improvement

The county is ranked lower for the following indicators. While many have improved over time they continue to trail behind the other jurisdictions in the state. For the summary areas considered in the Rankings, the county has struggled the most with **Clinical Care** and continues to have a low ranking. It is important to note that the low ranking of the rate of primary care physicians (PCPs), dentists, and mental health providers in the County has limitations: the measures only consider the providers located within the county and not any nearby access to providers in adjacent jurisdictions. Also, the primary care physician (PCP) rate does not include nurse practitioners, physician assistants or other practitioners who may also provide primary care services.

Clinical Care Measures	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*	2017 Rank (out of 24)
Overall Ranking	20	21	23	23	23	23
Percent Uninsured	17%	16%	16%	17%	14%	24
PCP Rate	1,837:1	1,804:1	1,780:1	1,860:1	1,910:1	16
Dentist Rate	1,893:1	1,762:1	1,712:1	1,680:1	1,680:1	14
Mental Health Provider Rate	--	1,483:1	1,151:1	1,060:1	970:1	21
Preventable Hospital Stays	54 per 1,000	52 per 1,000	48 per 1,000	46 per 1,000	43 per 1,000	3
Diabetes Monitoring	80%	80%	81%	82%	82%	22
Mammography Screening	63.0%	60.7%	61.7%	61%	61%	22

* Much of the data for these measures is from 2014, before ACA implementation

Even though Prince George's County ranks low in graduation rate, violent crime rate, and low birth weight, those measures have improved over time, as shown in the following table.

Low Ranked Measures	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017 Rank (out of 24)
Graduation Rate	75%	73%	74%	77%	79%	23
Violent Crime Rate*	804	702	624	554	509	23
STI (chlamydia) Rate*	682	699	685	699	689	22
Low Birth Weight	10.4%	10.4%	10.3%	10%	10%	21

* Rate is per 100,000 population

Conclusions

While Prince George's County has improved in the overall County Health Ranking, it's important to also consider the **improvement for many of the indicators over time** that demonstrates the positive progression of the county. The County Health Rankings is a helpful tool to start important conversations about the factors that contribute to the health of county residents. When using the Rankings, it is important to consider that the age of the data used may not take into account recent rapid changes in the county, such as the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and Primary Healthcare Strategic Planⁱⁱ.

ⁱ <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>

ⁱⁱ <http://www.pgplanning.org/Projects/PHCSP.htm>