

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN KENOSHA AND RACINE COUNTIES

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Health is influenced by a range of factors that determine how long and how well we live, including health behaviors (tobacco use, diet & exercise, alcohol & drug use, sexual activity), clinical care (access to care, quality of care), social and economic factors (education, employment, family & social support, community safety), and the physical environment (air & water quality, housing & transit). Like our nation, there are meaningful differences in these factors among Wisconsin counties as well as among genders, and racial/ethnic groups. Kenosha County ranks 59th and Racine County ranks 61st out of 72 counties, for overall health outcomes including premature death and quality of life. Looking closer at quality of life, (poor or fair health, poor physical health days, poor mental health days, and low birthweight), *Kenosha and Racine counties rank 65th and 68th, respectively.*

Source: County Health Rankings, 2018. <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>, accessed 1/12/2019

KEY FINDINGS

Compared to statewide data, Racine and Kenosha counties have:

- Overall lower health outcomes
- Higher infant mortality, in particular with African-Americans in Racine
- Higher teen birth rates
- Higher incidence and deaths from breast cancer
- Higher drug overdose deaths

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live birth	Black Non- Hispanic	American Indian Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	White Non- Hispanic	Total
United States	11.4	9.4	5.0	4.9	5.9
Wisconsin	15.2	4.3	4.5	5.3	6.2
Kenosha County, WI	13.8	.	6.0	2.3	6.2
Racine County, WI	24.9	.	4.6	5.7	8.7

Fetal losses in Racine County are three times more likely to occur in blacks than in whites, a disparity that is greater than seen at the state or national level. While the state experienced a slow but steady decline in infant mortality rates of blacks, Racine county experienced an increase since 2013 (Racine County Fetal, Infant and Child Death Review 2011-2016).

In Racine county, stillbirths, infants, and child deaths were more likely to be male (60%). Gender specific differences in injury mortality were observed with males more likely to die from suicide and females from motor vehicle accidents.

Source: Central Racine County Health Department, (2017). Racine County Fetal, Infant and Child Death Review, 2011-2016.

Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 females 15-19	Black Non- Hispanic	Hispanic	White Non- Hispanic	Total
United States	29	32	14	20
Wisconsin	na	na	na	15
Kenosha County, WI	59	43	16	26
Racine County, WI	68	51	16	30

While teen birth rates throughout the country continue to decline, Racine and Kenosha counties still have higher number of teen birth rates when compared to the state and national rates.

Note: Data is from 2016, "na" data was unavailable at the time of publication

Sources: Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system, <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/index.htm>, Infant Mortality Module, accessed 1/27/2019.

U.S. department of Health & Human Services, Office of Adolescent Health. <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/adolescent-development/reproductive-health-and-teen-pregnancy/teen-pregnancy-and-childbearing/trends/index.html>, accessed 1/21/2019

DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE

Many factors may contribute to depression, such as developmental, reproductive, hormonal, genetic and other biological differences (e.g. premenstrual syndrome, childbirth, infertility and menopause). Social factors may also lead to higher rates of clinical depression among women, including stress from work, family responsibilities, the roles and expectations of women and increased sexual abuse and poverty. Similar to national data, rates of depression among Wisconsin women is roughly twice the rate of men. Adolescent girls have consistently higher rates of depression than boys do in the same age group.

Suicide rates increased across the U.S. from 1999 to 2016 (26%) and Wisconsin was no different (25.8%). Adult females reported a suicide attempt 1.2 times as often as males, however men died by suicide 3.54x more often than women did. Based on the Youth Risk Behaviors Survey, 16.4 of WI youth in grades 9-12 reported seriously considered attempting suicide during the previous 12 months with girls considering almost twice as often as boys (22.4% vs. 10.3%).

Depression symptoms among high school students (grades 9-12), 2017

Percent of high school students who report they felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row so that they stopped doing some usual activities (during the 12 months before the survey)	Wisconsin	United States
Total	27%	31%
Male	16%	21%
Female	38%	41%

Note: No data available for Racine or Kenosha counties.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2018). 1991-2017 High School Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System data. Retrieved June 20, 2018, from <https://nccd.cdc.gov/Youthonline/App/Default.aspx>

BREAST CANCER

Both Racine County (141) and Kenosha County (135) have higher breast cancer incident rates than the state of Wisconsin (129.7) and the national (124.7) rates. Death rates for breast cancer are also higher for both counties, 27.2 % (Racine), 26.4% (Kenosha), compared to 24.7 % for Wisconsin and 20.6% for the US.

Note: (Incidence = newly diagnosed cancer cases per 1,000 females)

Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Public Health Profiles, Wisconsin 2017

Source: Siegel, R., Miller, K., & Jemal, A. (2019), Cancer statistics, 2019. CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians, 69:7-34. doi: 10.3322/caac.21551.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE DEATHS

Racine County had higher deaths related to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs at 204.8 as compared to Kenosha having 178.7, and the state of Wisconsin having 180.4 per 100,000 population for 2017. Consistent with data at the state level, fewer females have drug overdose deaths than males do, 36.8 % in the state, 37.5% in Kenosha County, and 32.7% in Racine County.

Table Drug Overdose Deaths by Sex and Race/Ethnicity for 2017

	Kenosha County, WI (51)		Racine County, WI (52)		Wisconsin (1,171)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
White	29	18	27	14	609	379
Black	X	X	8	X	102	37
Hispanic	6	X	X	.	46	17
American Indian	.	.	.	.	19	14
Asian	.	.	.	.	6	X
Unknown	.	.	.	.	X	.
Total Deaths and (% of total)	32 (62.7%)	18 (37.3%)	35 (67.3%)	17 (32.7%)	740 (63.2%)	431 (36.8%)

An "X" indicates a value that is less than 5 (but more than zero) and has been suppressed to protect confidentiality. A period (.) indicates there are zero cases in that cell. If all values in a row or column are zero, that row or column is not displayed.

Source: Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system, <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/index.htm>, Drug Overdose Deaths Module, accessed 1/20/2019.

Opioid Deaths

Similar to the national crises, both Racine and Kenosha counties are experiencing an increase in the number of opioid overdose deaths in both males and females. In 2017, there were 22.5 (32.0 male, 13.2 female) deaths per 100,000 Racine County. Kenosha County was higher with 26.8 (34.9 male, 18.9 female) deaths per 100,000. Comparatively, the overall state level was lower at 15.9 death rate (20.7 male, 11.0 female).

OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY (BYRSS, 2012-2016)

Obesity continues to be a health concern. Racine County has an adult overweight and obesity rate of 69.1-73.2 % with Kenosha faring slightly lower with 64.7%-69%, compared to the U.S. rate of 71.6%.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/obesity-overweight.htm>