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Monongalia healthiest, McDowell least healthy, according to new health rankings

By Lori Kersey

CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- Monongalia County is healthiest and McDowell County the least healthy in West Virginia, according to rankings released Wednesday from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

The five healthiest counties are in the northern and eastern parts of the state: Monongalia, Pendleton, Doddridge, Jefferson and Hampshire. The five unhealthiest counties are in coalfield counties in Southern West Virginia: McDowell, Wyoming, Mingo, Logan and Boone. The county health rankings annually assesses nearly every county in all 50 states based on high school graduation rates, obesity, smoking and family and social support and other factors that influence health.

This year's rankings also include the number of dentists per resident and other new measures.

To read Pendleton County's rankings, click below:

<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/west-virginia/2013/pendleton/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot/by-rank>

For the entire list of county rankings, visit <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org>