



TRENDS – March 2011

New national study ranks St. Charles County one of the healthiest counties in Missouri

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO (March 30, 2011) ---

St. Charles County has again been ranked one of the healthiest counties in Missouri based on a 2011 national study by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. This year's County Health Rankings Report placed St. Charles County No. 1 in Health Factors and No. 3 in Health Outcomes out of 114 Missouri Counties.

The top five Missouri regions for Health Factors were St. Charles County (No. 1), Boone County (No. 2), Nodaway County (No. 3), St. Louis County (No. 4) and Platte County (No. 5).



The state's top five regions for Health Outcomes were Christian County (No. 1), Platte County (No. 2), St. Charles County (No. 3), Johnson County (No. 4) and Atchison County (No. 5).

“The continued success in St. Charles County's health rankings is attributable in a large part to the exceptional hospital systems we have in place thanks to SSM, BJC and St. Luke's. At the same time, eating right, exercising, getting preventive care --- that's what people have to do to stay healthy,” said Greg Prestemon, president and chief executive officer for the Economic Development Center of St. Charles County (EDC).

The 2011 report ranked counties in each of the 50 states based on summaries of various health measures. Health Outcomes are based on an equal weighting of a length of life measure (mortality) and four measures in quality of life (morbidity). Health Factors are based on weighted scores of four factors including health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic, and physical environment.

The *County Health Rankings* are a key component of the Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH) project, a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

The EDC and its civic membership group, the Partners for Progress of Greater St. Charles (PFP), are focused on issues of health and wellness and quality of place with many of their initiatives and programs. To find out more, please visit www.pfpstcharles.com or contact Linda Arnet of PFP at 636-441-6880 ext. 254.

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