

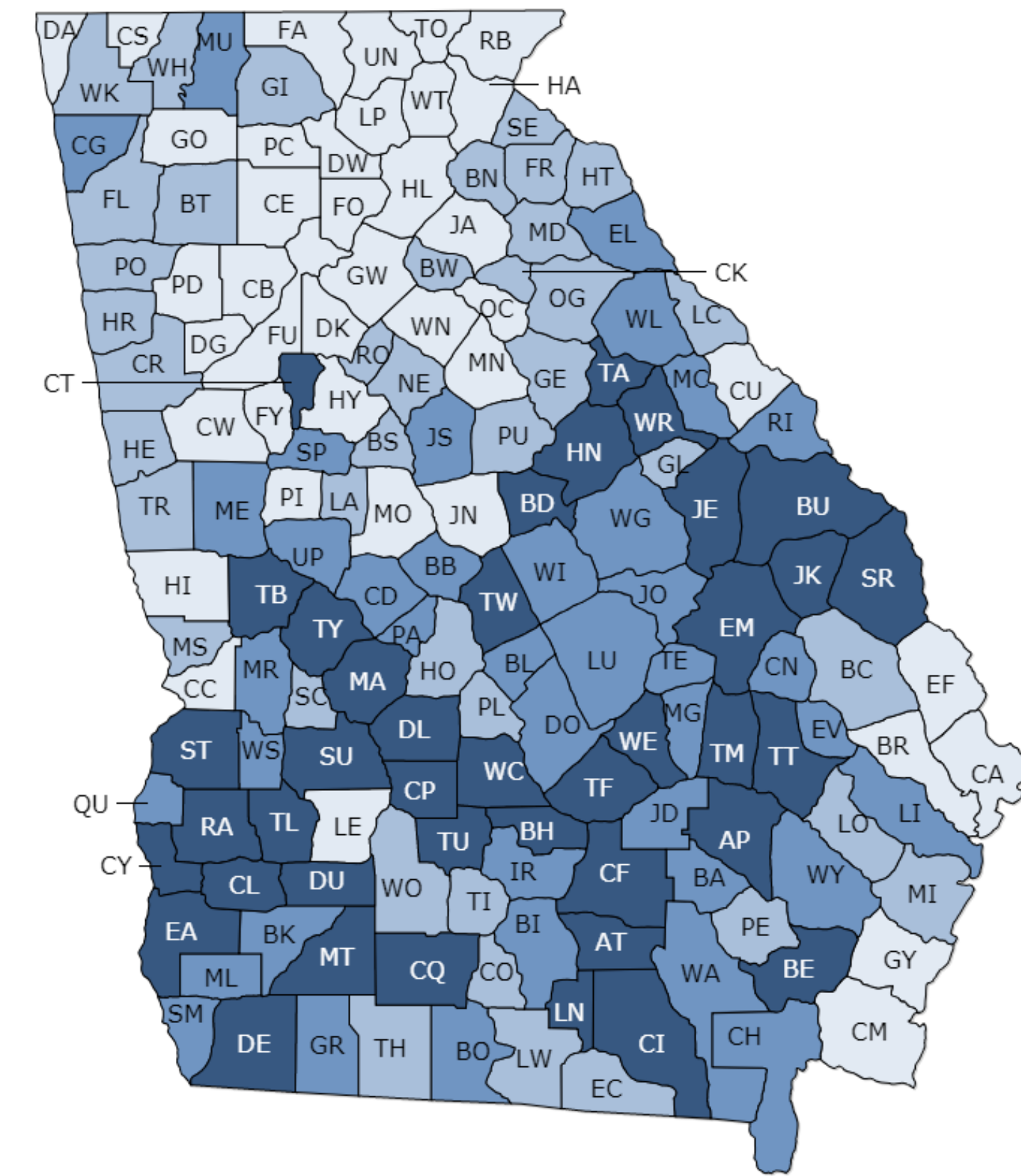
# 2019 County Health Ranking Summary

## Houston County

A summary of the strengths and areas of opportunities identified by [countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org).



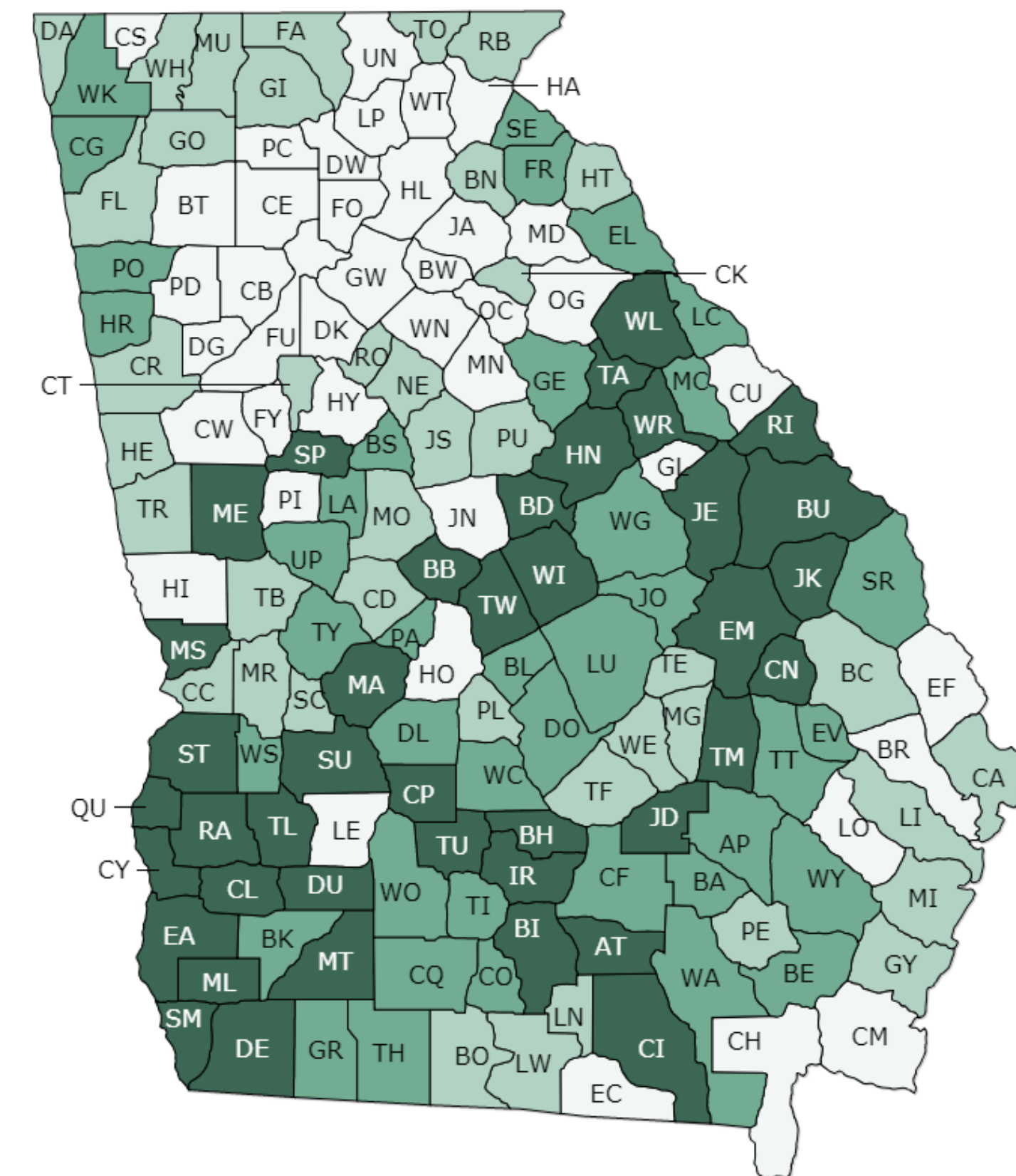
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### HEALTH FACTORS

Based on weighted scores for health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment. The map is divided into four quartiles with less color intensity indicating better performance in the respective summary rankings.

Rank 1-40 Rank 41-80 Rank 81-119 Rank 120-159



### HEALTH OUTCOMES

Shows the distribution of health outcomes, based on an equal weighting of length and quality of life. The map is divided into four quartiles with less color intensity indicating better performance in the respective summary rankings.

Rank 1-40 Rank 41-80 Rank 81-119 Rank 120-159

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# What is the County Health Rankings?

Published by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the County Health Rankings rank the health of nearly every county in the nation and illustrate what we know about what is keeping people healthy, making them sick, and what we can do to create healthier communities by using the model to right. The information is compiled for the Rankings by using county-level measures from a variety of national data sources. These measures are standardized and combined using scientifically informed weights and are then rank counties by state, providing two overall ranks:

1. Health outcomes: how healthy a county is now.
2. Health factors: how healthy a county will be in the future.

The information provided by this report explores the size and nature of health differences by place and race/ethnicity in Georgia and how state and community leaders can take action to create environments where all residents have the opportunity to live their healthiest lives (CHR&R, 2018). Specifically, this report will help illuminate:

1. Overview of the Rankings for Counties within the North Central Health District.
2. Snapshot of the areas of strength and areas to explores within each district county.
3. Description of how the county health department and district office are working to close identified gaps.

**More information can be found at [countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org)**

# Overview of North Central Health District Rankings

The overall rankings in health outcomes represent how healthy counties are within the state. The healthiest county in the state is ranked #1. Ranks for health outcomes are based on an equal weighting of length and quality of life. Ranks for health factors are based on weighted scores for health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment. Overall health outcomes and health factor ranks have been compared to 2017 ranks. A red number indicates a negative move in rank and a green number indicates a positive move in rank.

	Health Outcomes			Health Factors		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Baldwin	104	109	121	134	134	124
Crawford	70	51	49	58	75	85
Hancock	128	147	153	154	150	152
Houston	27	21	22	41	38	42
Jasper	55	43	53	70	77	86
Jones	28	19	13	33	28	25
Macon-Bibb	142	143	135	97	98	110
Monroe	51	65	67	30	33	35
Peach	101	105	112	116	112	107
Putnam	78	64	46	71	81	63
Twiggs	106	135	158	141	148	146
Washington	59	83	81	81	94	95
Wilkinson	107	139	124	94	82	83

# Houston County Demographics

- 10% Rural
- 1.5% of the state population.
- 52% Female

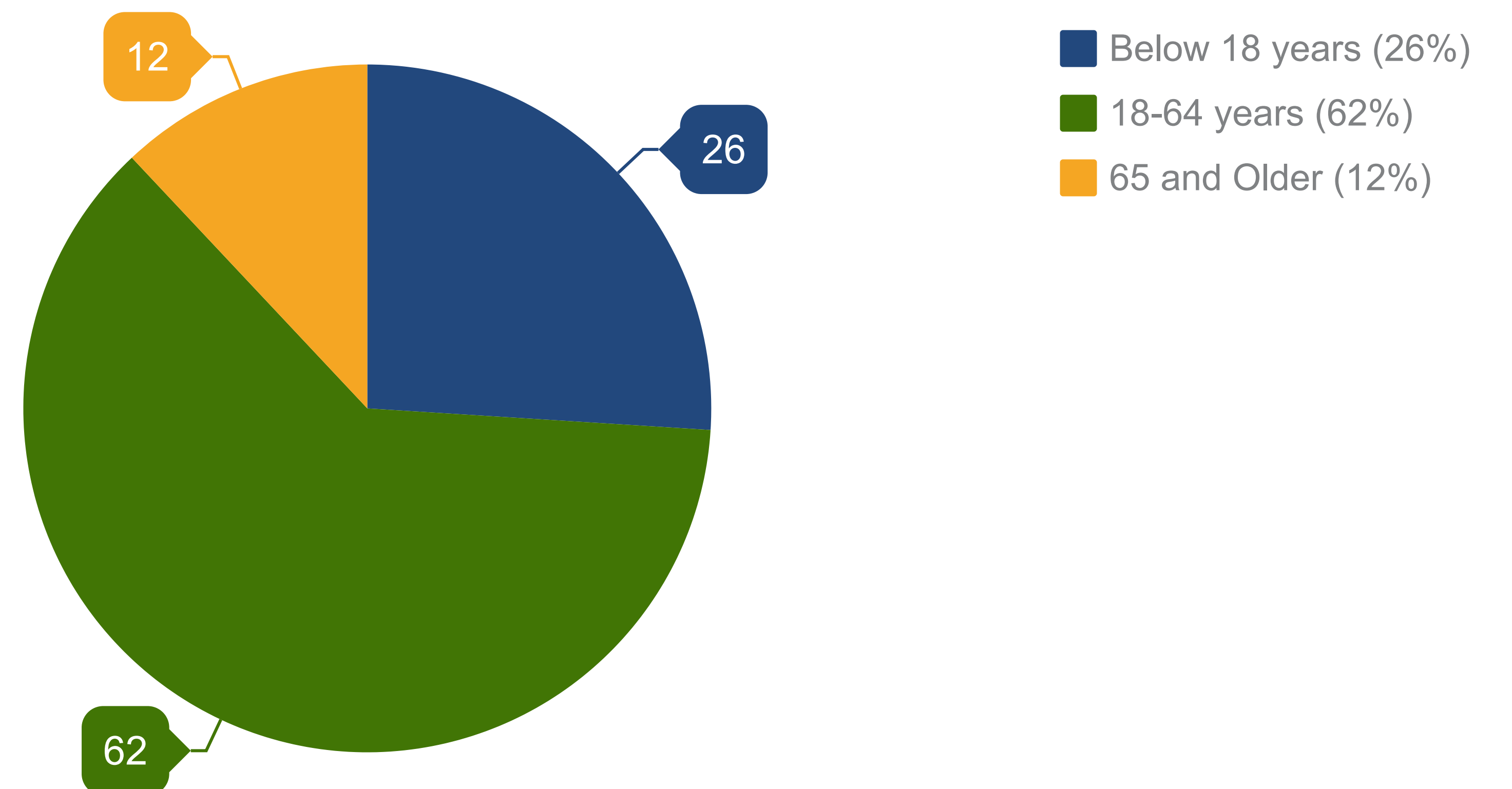
## 2019 POPULATION

153,479

### RACE/ETHNICITY



### AGERANGE



# Areas of Strength

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The Areas of Strength highlights measures that are assets in your community already. Accounting for the relative influence of each measure on health outcomes, the County Health Rankings team used a variety of techniques to identify the Health Factor measures for your county that are the assets your community might want to build on. They identified measures where there are meaningful differences between your county's values and either your state average, the national benchmark, or the state average in the best state.




- **High School Graduation**
- **Income Inequality**
- **Injury Deaths**



**Areas of Strength**




## **High School Graduation**

High School Graduation is the percentage of the ninth-grade cohort that graduates from high school in four years.

-  **Houston County**  
**88%**
-  **North Central Health District**  
**77-95%**
-  **Georgia**  
**81%**

## **Income Inequality**

Income Inequality is the ratio of household income at the 80th percentile to that at the 20th percentile, i.e., when the incomes of all households in a county are listed from highest to lowest, the 80th percentile is the level of income at which only 20% of households have higher incomes, and the 20th percentile is the level of income at which only 20% of households have lower incomes. A higher inequality ratio indicates greater division between the top and bottom ends of the income spectrum.

-  **Houston County**  
**4.5**
-  **North Central Health District**  
**4.1-6.4**
-  **Georgia**  
**5.0**

## Areas of Strength

# Injury Deaths

Injury Deaths is the number of deaths from planned (e.g. homicide or suicide) and unplanned (e.g. motor vehicle deaths) injuries per 100,000 population

✔ **Houston County**

**54**

✔ **North Central Health District**

**54-99**

✔ **Georgia**

**63**

## Areas to Explore

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The Areas to Explore highlight measures that are potential challenges your community may want to examine more closely. Accounting for the relative influence of each measure on health outcomes, the County Health Rankings team used a variety of techniques to identify the Health Factor measures for your county that seem to have the greatest potential opportunity for improvement. They identified measures where there are meaningful differences between your county's values and either your state average, the national benchmark, or the state average in the best state.

- **Adult Smoking**
- **Adult Obesity**
- **Sexually Transmitted Infections**
- **Uninsured**
- **Preventable Hospital Stays**
- **Social Associations**






## Areas to Explore

### Adult Smoking

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Adult Smoking is the percentage of the adult population in a county who both report that they currently smoke every day or most days and have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime.

-  **Houston County**  
**19%**
-  **North Central Health District**  
**18-24%**
-  **Georgia**  
**18%**

### Adult Obesity

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Adult Obesity is based on responses to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) and is the percentage of the adult population (age 20 and older) that reports a body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.




-  **Houston County**  
**32%**
-  **North Central Health District**  
**31-36%**
-  **Georgia**  
**30%**

**Areas to Explore**

# Sexually Transmitted Infections

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Sexually Transmitted Infections is the number of newly diagnosed chlamydia cases per 100,000 population of a county. Rates measure the number of events in a given time period (generally one or more years) divided by the average number of people at risk during that period. Rates help us compare risks of health factors across counties with different population sizes.

-  **Houston County**  
**673.9**
-  **North Central Health District**  
**186.0-1031.1**
-  **Georgia**  
**614.6**

# Uninsured

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Uninsured is the percentage of the population under age 65 without health insurance coverage.



-  **Houston County**  
**13%**
-  **North Central Health District**  
**13-18%**
-  **Georgia**  
**15%**

**Areas to Explore**

# Preventable Hospital Stays

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Preventable Hospital Stays measures the number of hospital stays for ambulatory-care sensitive conditions per 100,000 Medicare enrollees.

-  **Houston County**  
**6,398**
-  **North Central Health District**  
**3,312-6,398**
-  **Georgia**  
**4,851**

# Social Associations

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Social Associations measures the number of membership associations per 10,000 population

-  **Houston County**  
**6.8**
-  **North Central Health District**  
**3.5-13.9**
-  **Georgia**  
**8.9**



## Summary

The HCHD and NCHD currently provide health programs and support health improvement policies that provide services that are scientifically supported. Examples of these programs are affordable pricing at clinics that include a sliding pay-scale, health insurance enrollment assistance, partnership with schools and businesses to provide vaccinations to staff and students, provision of coordinated care in the home, text message-based health interventions, partnerships with other community healthcare providers and agencies, and community health workers.

Programs to prevent injury related deaths are also being implemented by the HCHD and NCHD. These programs include car seat education and distribution campaigns. Tobacco Cessation campaigns using multiple media outlets and tobacco free policies are utilized throughout the district to curb tobacco related health issues. WIC provides nutritional services to pregnant and nursing women and children under 5 and are currently working with preschools on a project to provide WIC services to families in need through the school system. WIC is also an essential community partner to promote breastfeeding and support to women. A worksite wellness committee also provides programs to staff that promotes obesity and chronic disease prevention.

New initiatives are also being investigated that include telemedicine and additional outreach and prevention interventions that will hopefully assist in decreasing existing health gaps. The HCHD and NCHD are also implementing the Health and Human Services supported public health 3.0 model and are focusing resources on workforce development, partnerships, funding, infrastructure, and utilization of local data metrics to inform program improvement and evaluation (HHS, 2016). The adoption of this model and utilization of the information in this report will assist HCHD and NCHD achieve its mission of “preventing disease, promoting health, and protecting Central Georgia communities against health threats through education, service, advocacy, and collaboration.”



NCHD is dedicated to preventing disease, promoting health, and protecting Central Georgia communities against health threats through education, service, advocacy, and collaboration.

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[nchd52.org/houston-county-health-department/](https://nchd52.org/houston-county-health-department/)



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