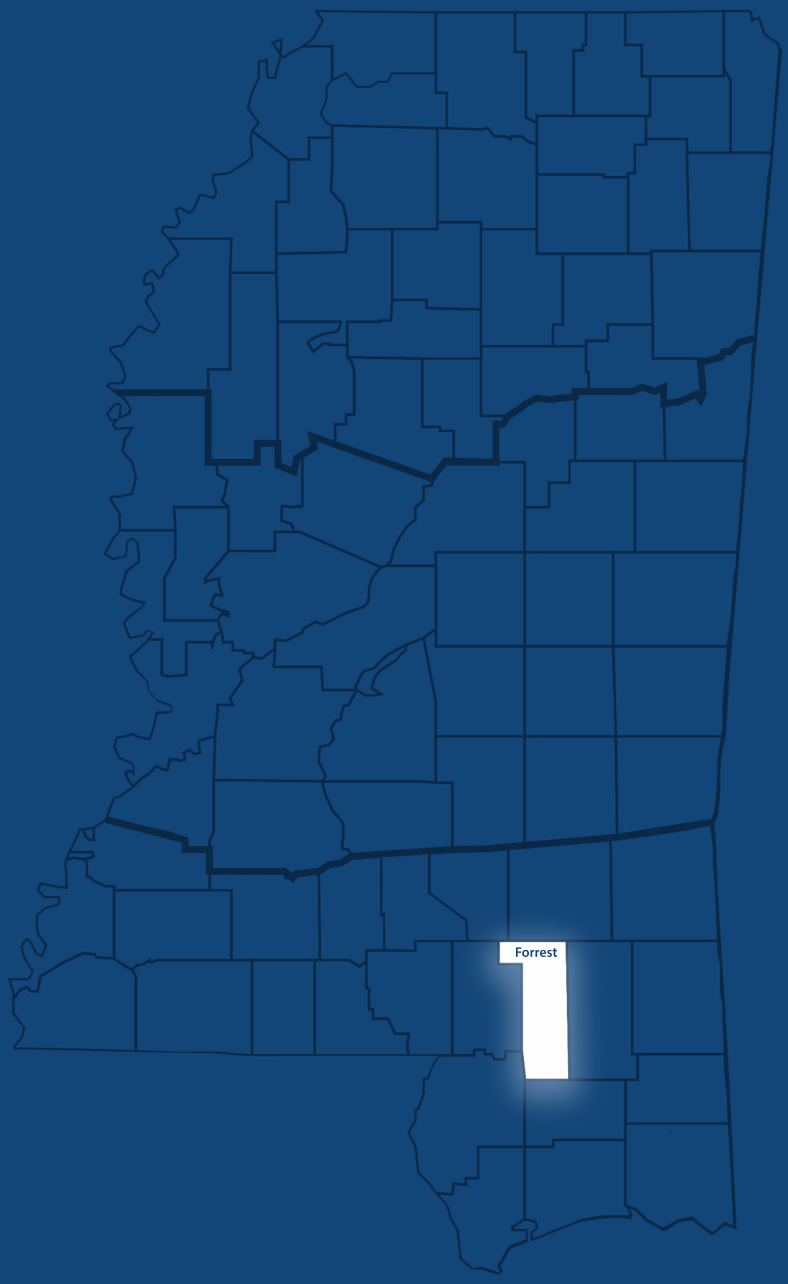
Mississippi State Department of Health



Forrest County Health Profile

Mississippi County Health Profile
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Introduction

The mission of the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) is to promote and protect the health of the citizens of Mississippi. The MSDH strives for excellence in government, cultural competence in the carrying out of our mission and to seek local solutions to local problems.

Mississippi has an estimated total population of 2,984,100 residents in 2017. The state is predominantly rural and divided into 82 counties, with 65 considered to be rural. The racial composition is approximately 59.3% white, 37.7% black or African American and 3.0% characterized as other.

Population health outcomes can be measured by premature death rates, or deaths of individuals before the age of 75, as these deaths may have occurred due to poor health outcomes. The state of Mississippi has the highest rate of premature death in the United States (U.S.) with 500.9 deaths per 100,000 (MS Vital Records, 2016). Many of these deaths are due to chronic conditions. The number one cause of death in Mississippi is heart disease with an adjusted mortality rate of 233.5 per 100,000 population in 2016. The second leading cause of death in Mississippi is cancer with an age-adjusted rate of 187.7 deaths per 100,000 population (2016). The most frequently diagnosed cancer is lung cancer. In 2016, the rate of obesity among adults in Mississippi was 37.3%. In Mississippi, congenital heart disease (CHD) affects approximately 1 in 64 live births (1.56%). This rate is nearly twice that of the U.S. which has a rate of CHD affecting approximately 1 in 125 live births. Mississippi has the highest rate of infant mortality in the U.S. with a total rate of 8.6 deaths per 1,000 live births (2016). There is a large racial disparity in infant mortality rates with the rate among whites at 6.8 and that for blacks at 11.4 per 1,000 live births (2016).

Historically, Mississippi has ranked poorly in a range of health indicators such as infant mortality, obesity, and teenage pregnancy. Statewide, behavioral risk factors including unhealthy eating habits and lack of physical activity have led to increased rates of chronic illnesses. As the poorest state in the nation, Mississippi faces greater challenges than many other states to prevent and combat illnesses. At the same time, there have been some significant public health successes: Mississippi is recognized as a national leader in childhood immunizations. Program development resources, such as the County Health Profiles, assist in statewide efforts to build a culture of health and improve Mississippi's health status.

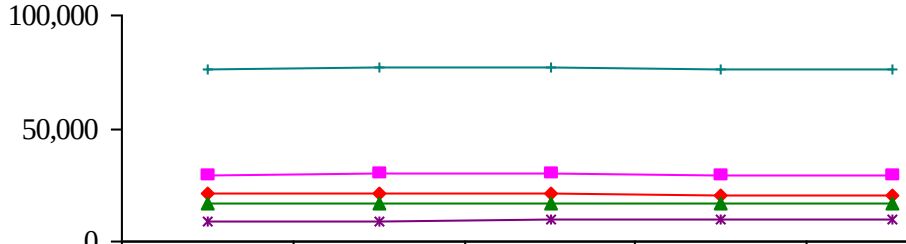
This report can be used as a resource to assist in the planning for ongoing and new health programs throughout the state of Mississippi, as well as to inform the general public of their county's health status.

MSDH is administered at the level of public health regions. However, to be consistent with other surveillance reports, some of the indicators in the County Health Profiles are still presented by public health district.

Forrest County

Population Characteristics

Forrest County Population Estimates by Year

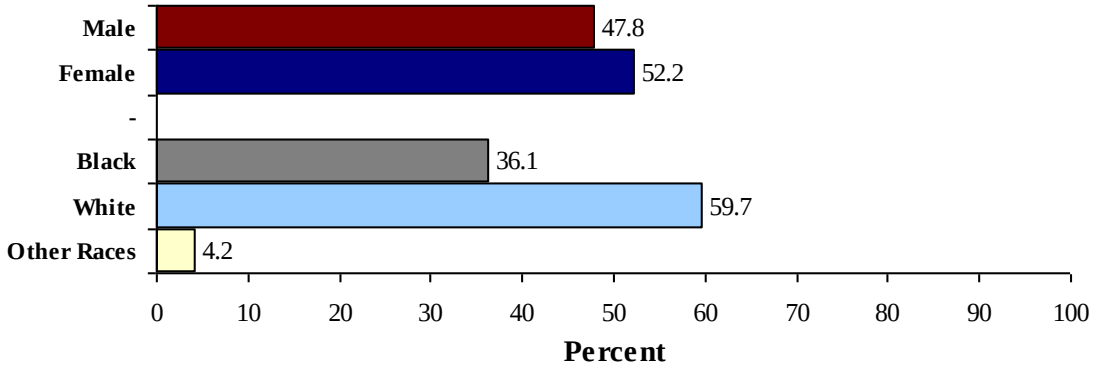


	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total	75842	76894	77059	76330	75944
<18	21293	21274	21003	20612	20241
18-44	29217	29762	29994	29505	29050
45-64	16563	16640	16622	16519	16673
65+	8769	9218	9440	9694	9980

Population by Age, Gender and Race, 2010

Age (years)	Gender		Race			Total
	Male	Female	Black	White	Other Races	
<18	8,945	8,758	7,930	8,743	1,030	17,703
18-44	15,459	16,490	11,996	18,269	1,684	31,949
45-64	7,897	8,721	5,349	10,958	311	16,618
65+	3,549	5,115	1,807	6,756	101	8,664
Total	35,850	39,084	27,082	44,726	3,126	74,934

Percent of Population by Gender and Race, 2010

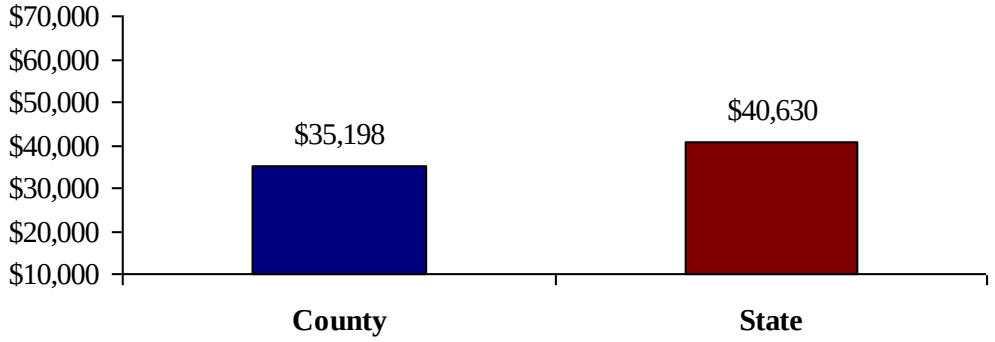


Source: U.S. Census, 2010

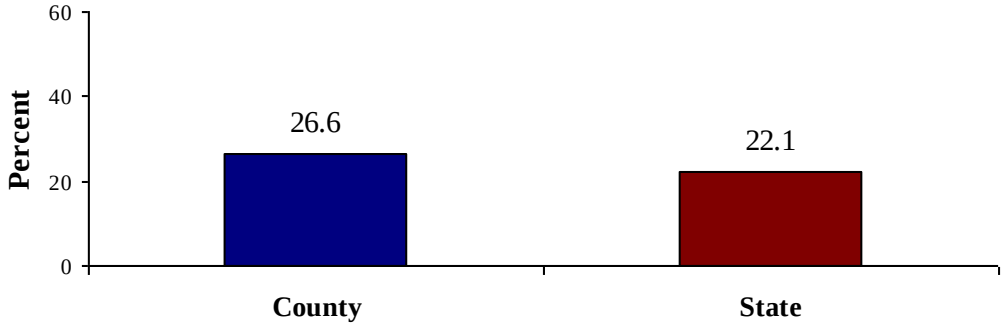
Forrest County

Social and Economic Characteristics

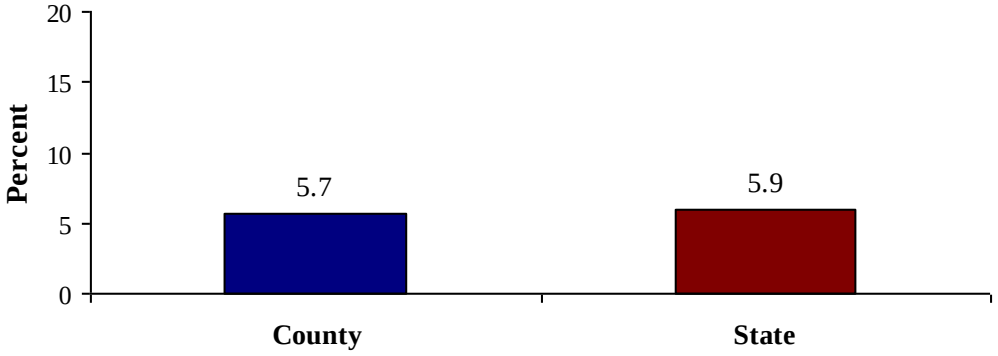
Median Household Income, 2015



Percent of Population Below Proverty level, 2015



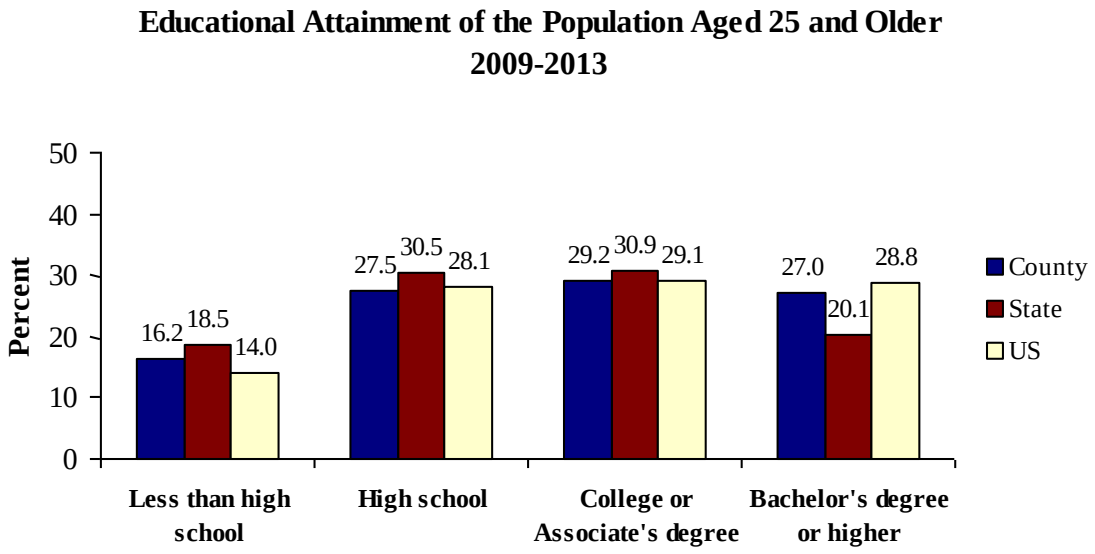
Percent of Population Unemployed, 2016



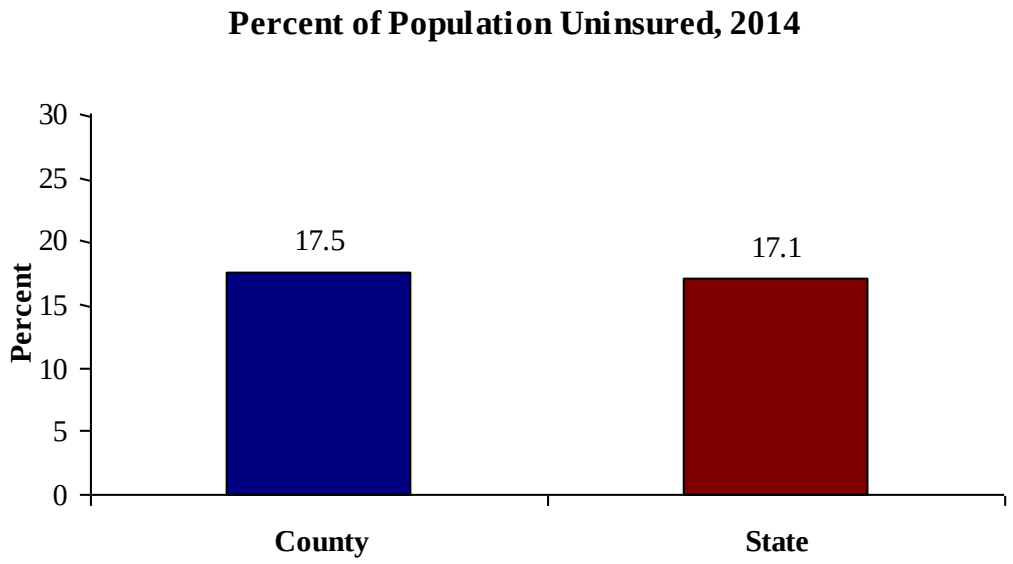
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Forrest County

Social and Economic Characteristics



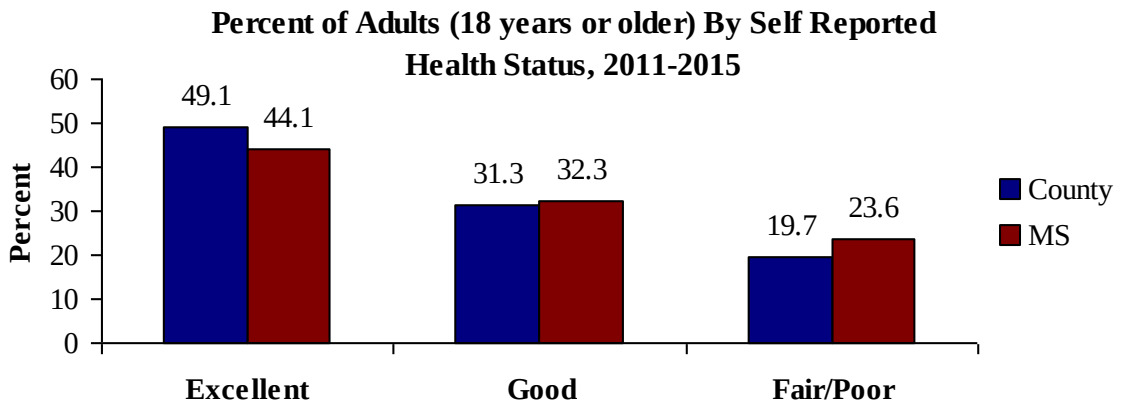
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, the 2009-2013 American Community Surveys

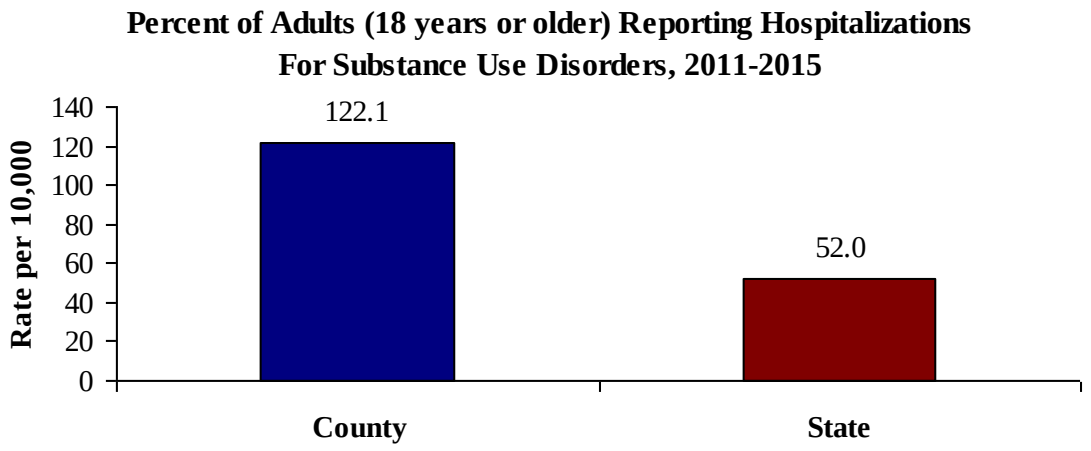


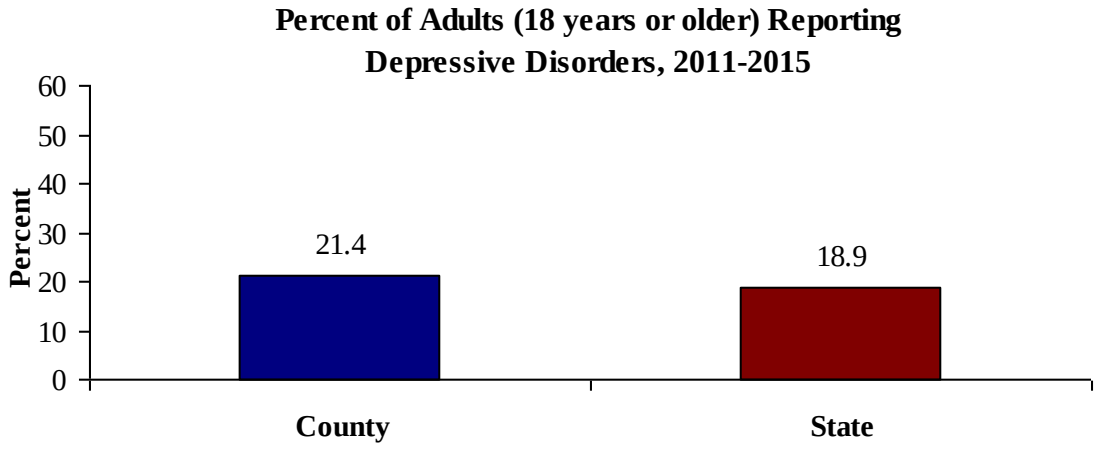
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates

Forrest County

Health Outcome Indicators



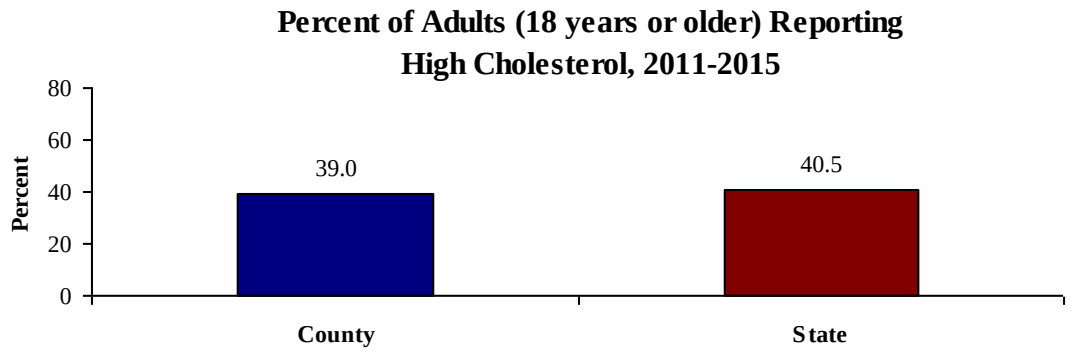


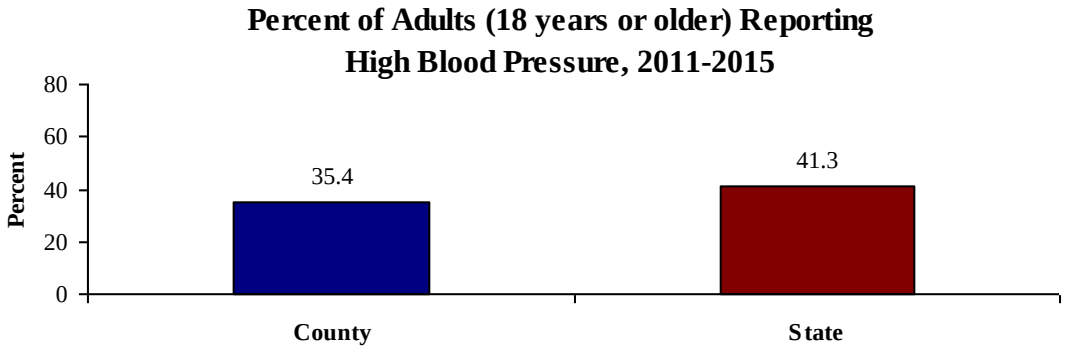


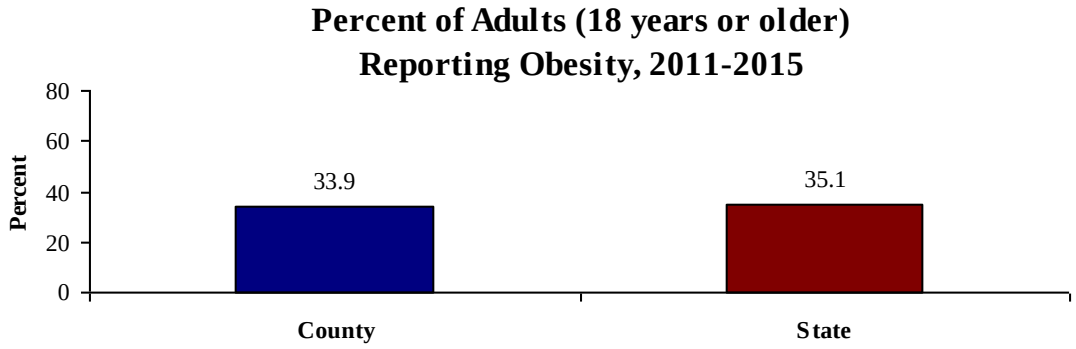
Source: 1. Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
2. Mississippi Hospital Discharge Data System

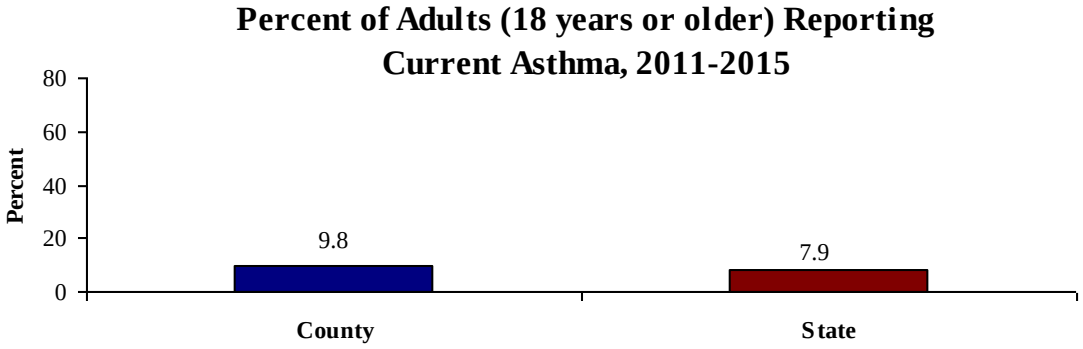
Forrest County

Health Outcome Indicators





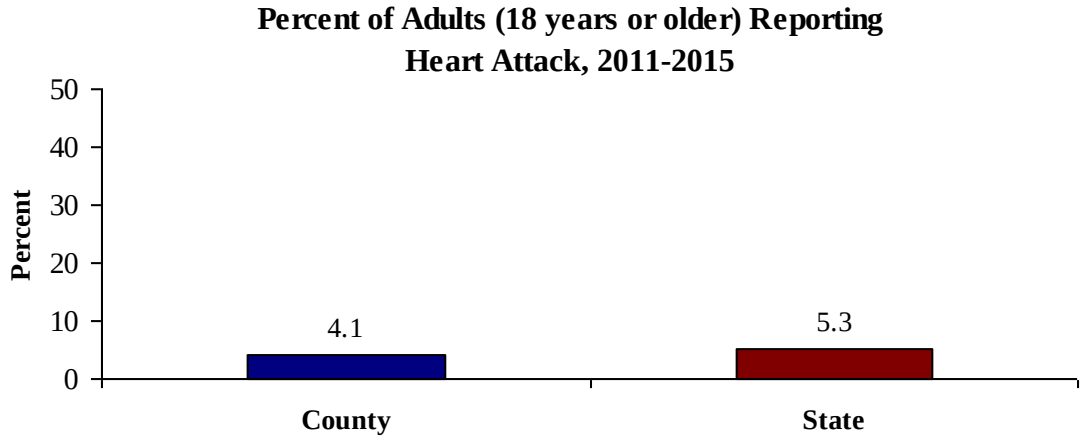


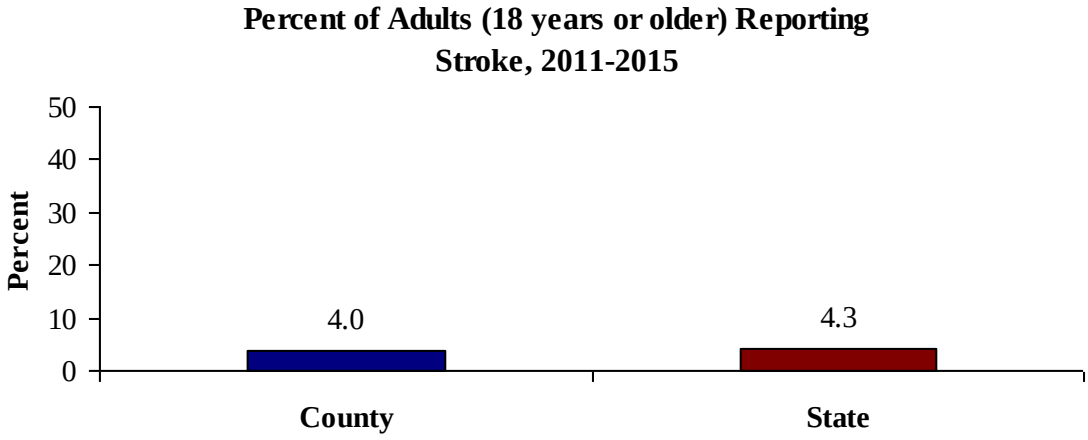


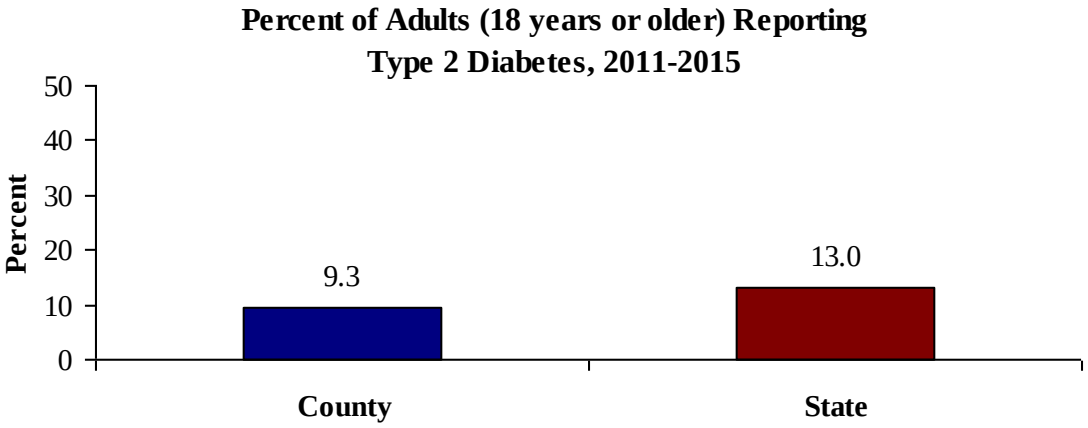
Source: Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Forrest County

Select Chronic Conditions



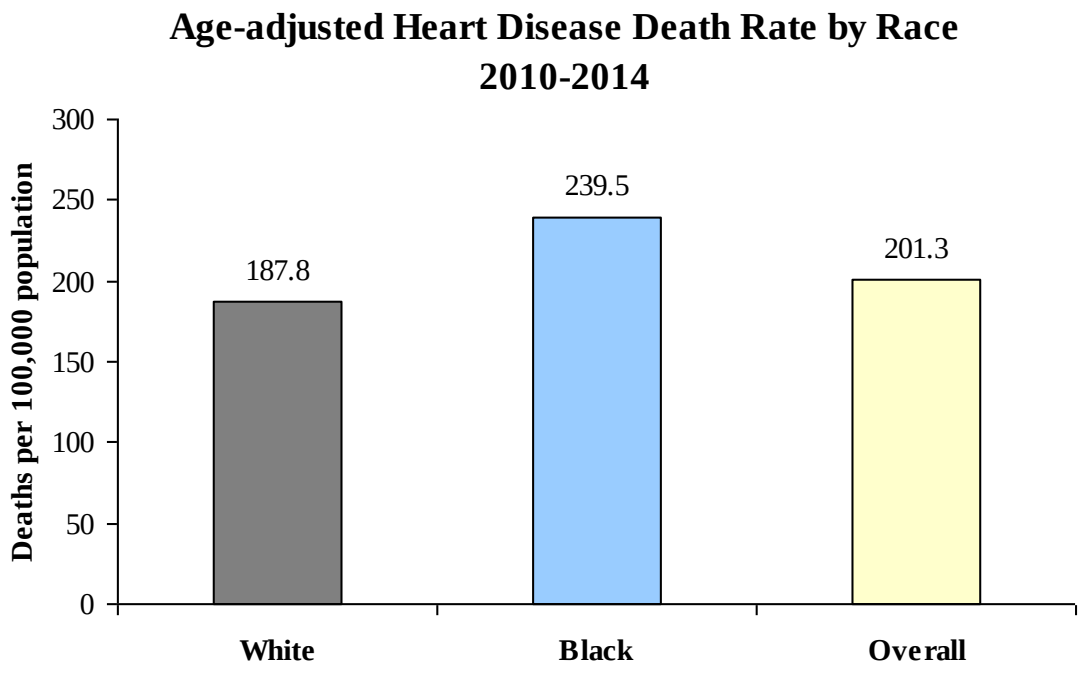


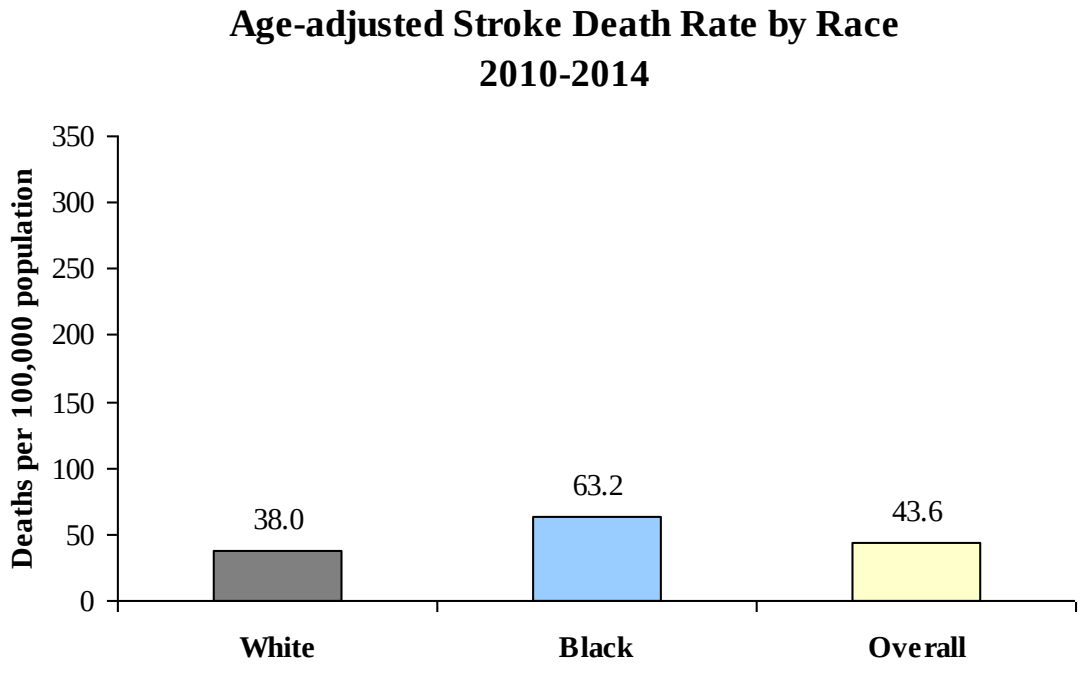


Source: Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Forrest County

Select Chronic Conditions

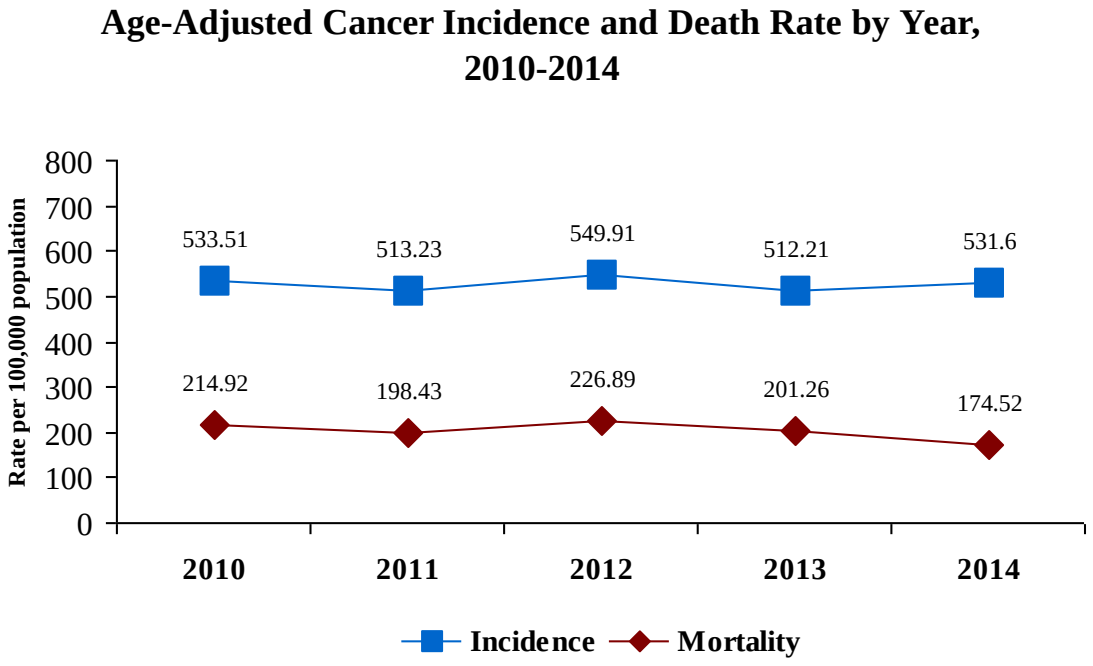


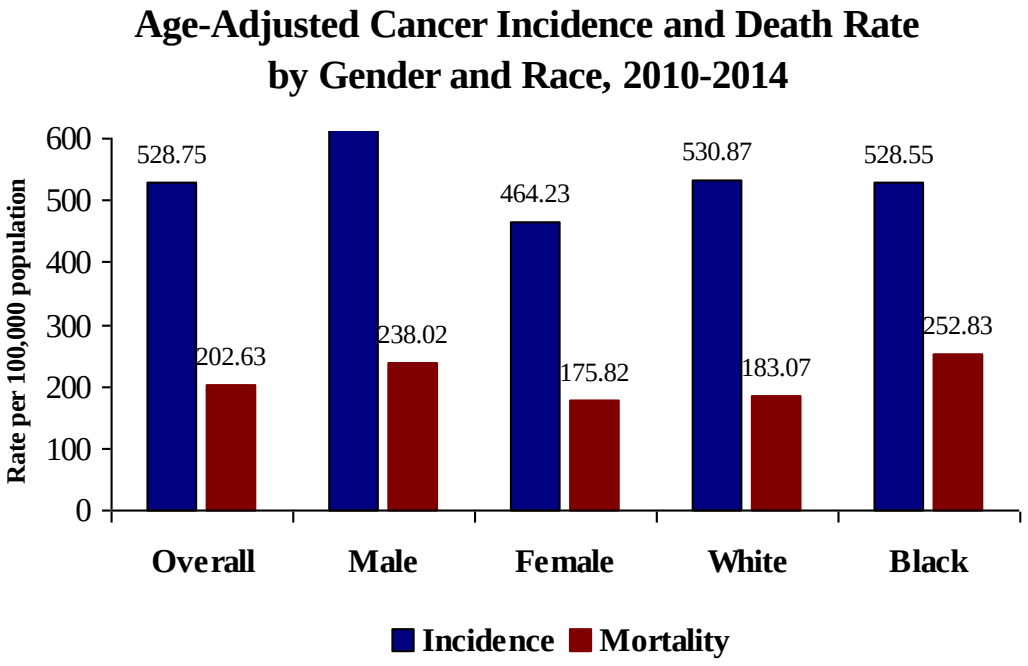


Source: Mississippi Vital Statistics

Forrest County

Select Chronic Conditions

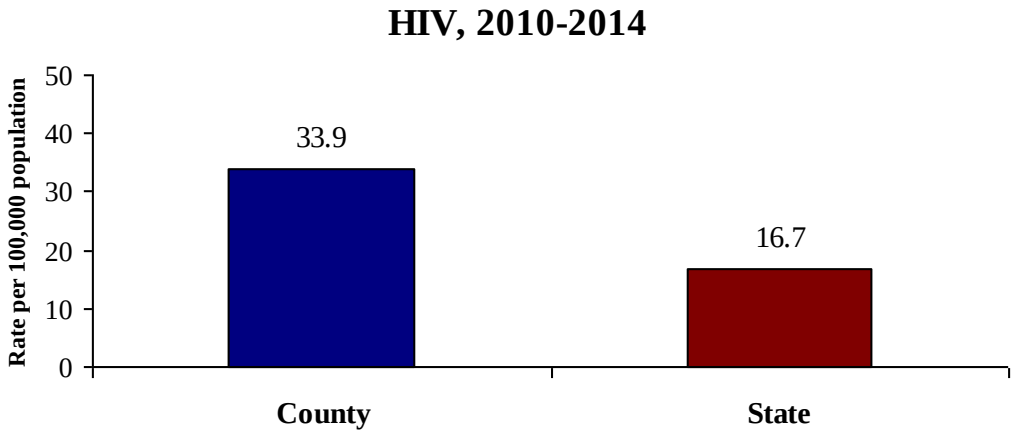


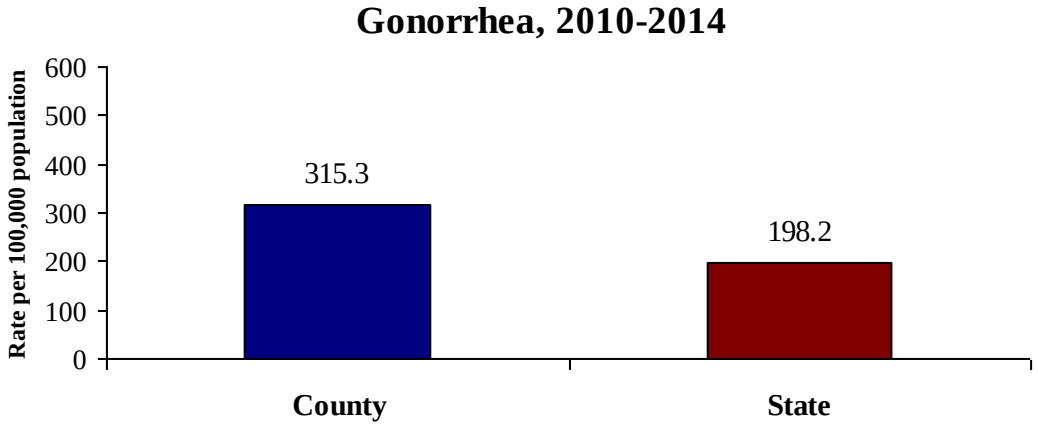


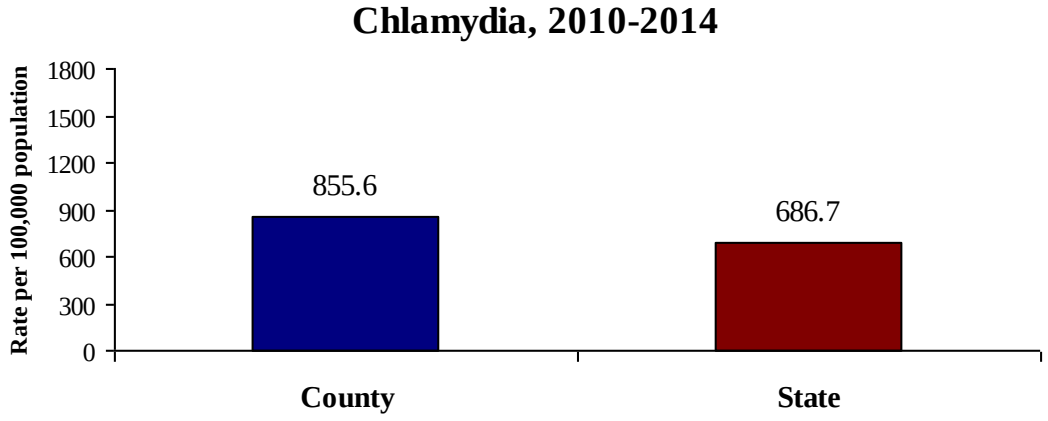
Source: Mississippi Cancer Registry

Forrest County

Select Infectious Diseases





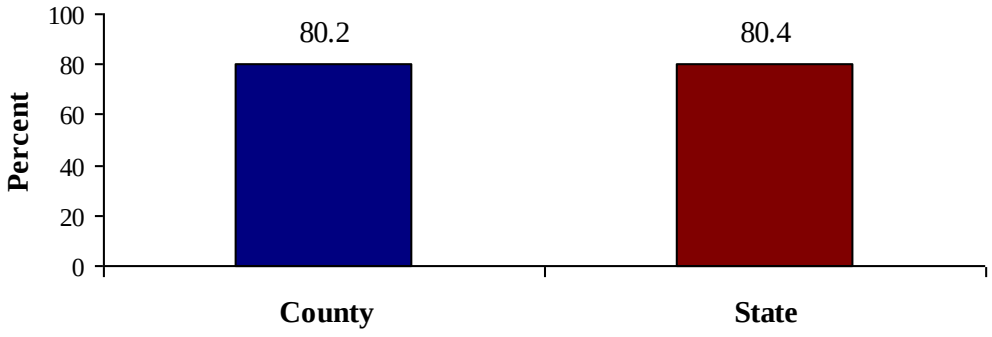


Source: Mississippi Vital Statistics

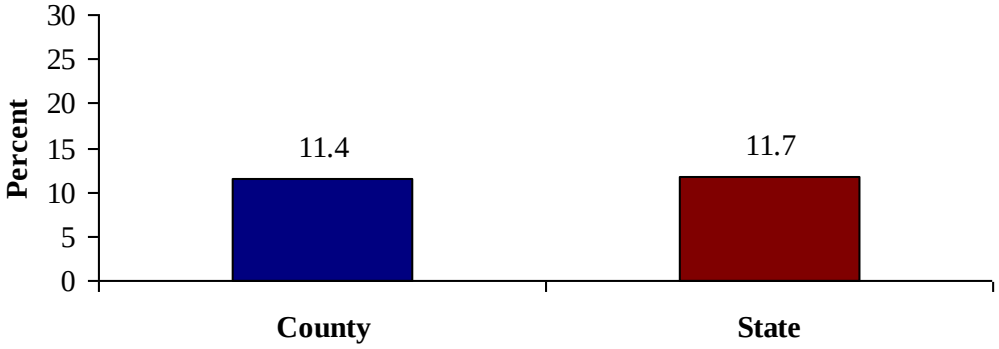
Forrest County

Maternal and Child Health

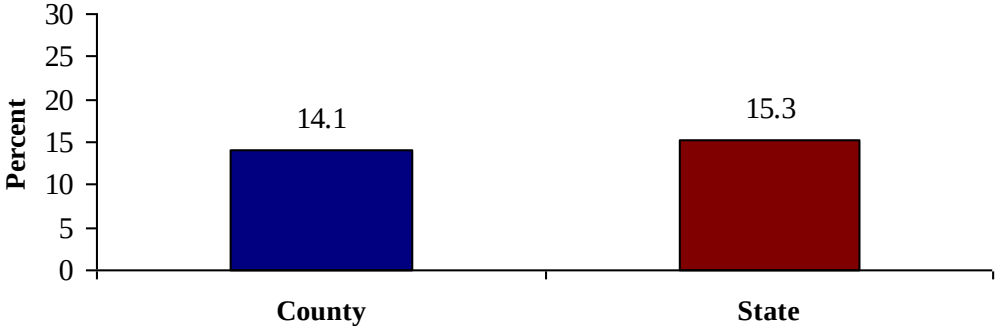
Percent of Infants Born to Pregnant Women Receiving Prenatal Care Beginning in the First Trimester, Forrest County & State, 2010-2014



Percent of Low Birth Weight Deliveries, Forrest County & State, 2010-2014



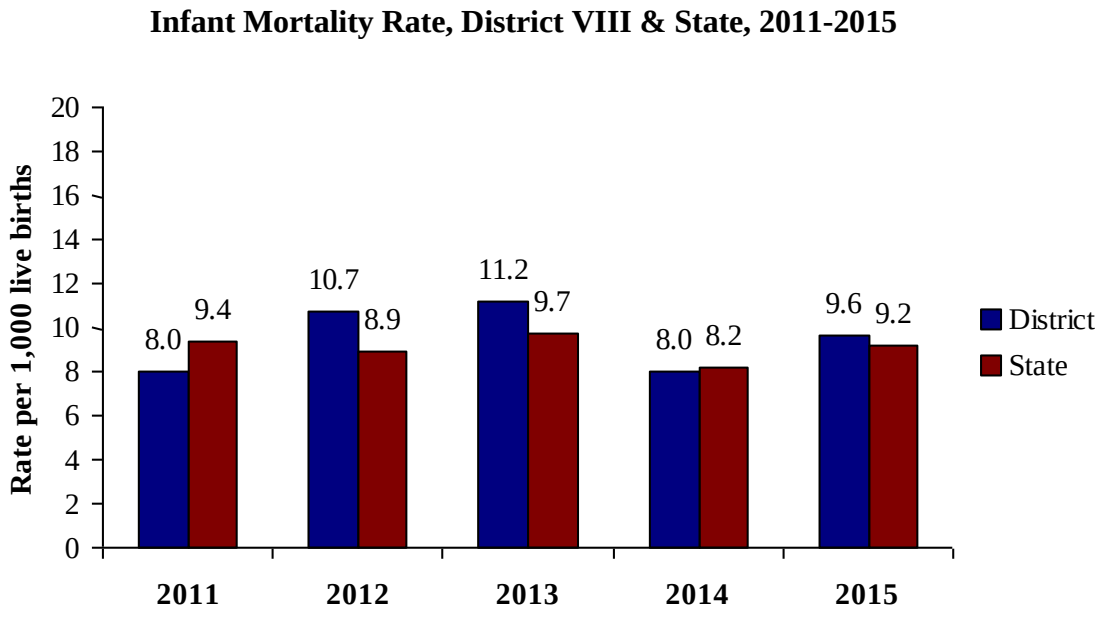
Percent of Preterm Births, Forrest County & State, 2010-2014

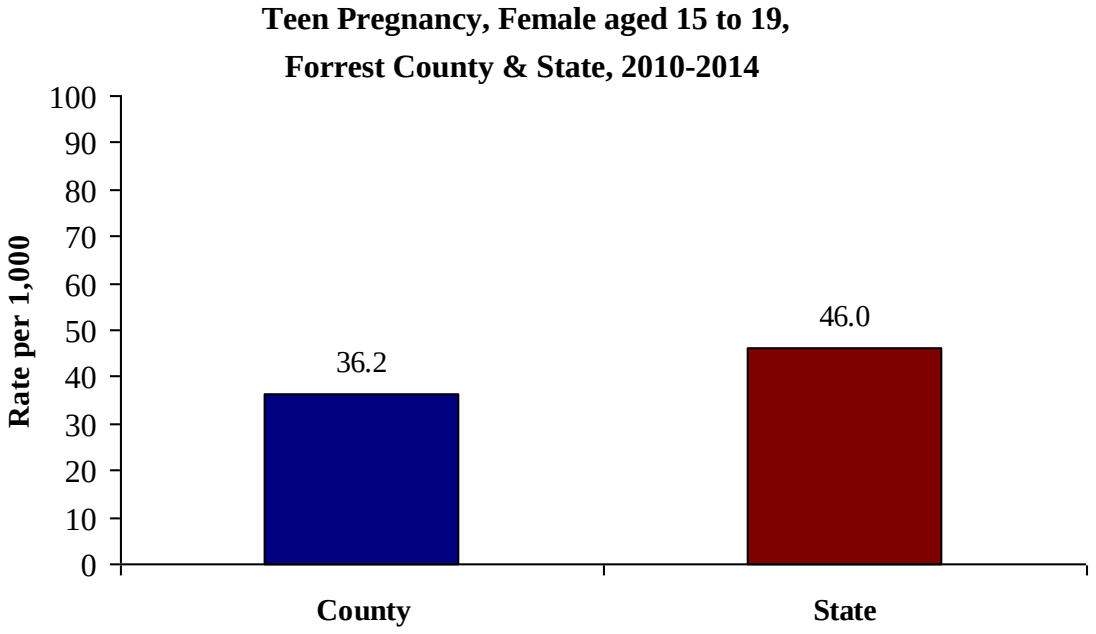


Source: Mississippi Vital Statistics

Forrest County

Maternal and Child Health





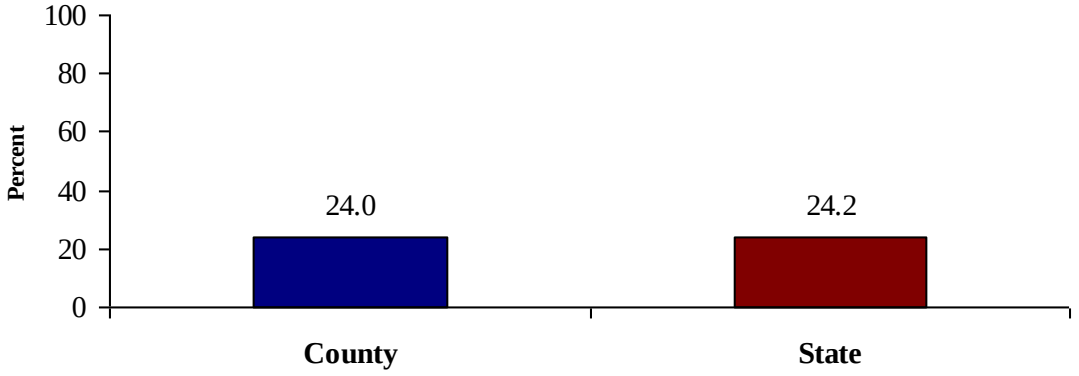
1. Infant mortality rate at county level was not reliable, so the district level data was used as a close measure for this county.

Source: Mississippi Vital Records

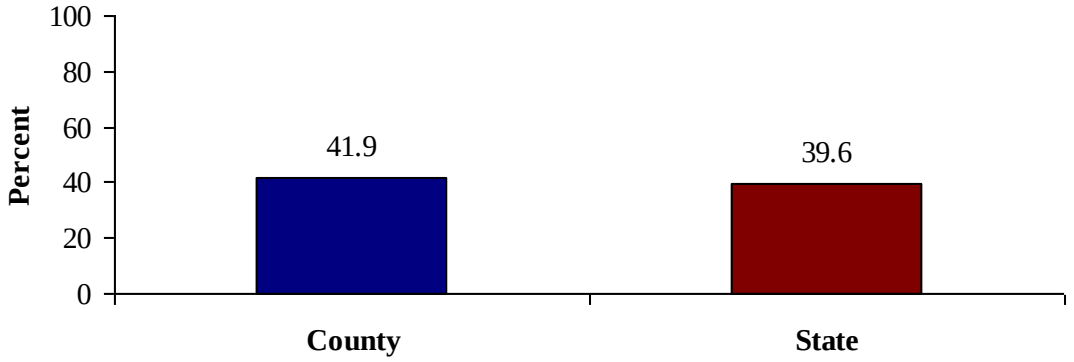
Forrest County

Health Behavior Indicators

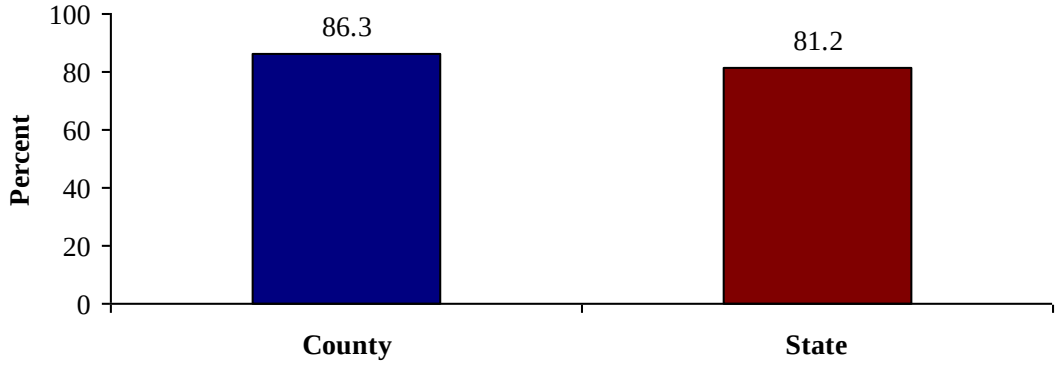
Percent of Mississippi adults (18 years or older) reporting being current smokers, Forrest County & State, 2011-2015



Percent of Mississippi adults (18 years or older) reporting alcohol use in past 30 days, Forrest County & State, 2011-2015



Percent of Mississippi adults (18 years or older) reporting always wearing seat belts, Forrest County & State, 2011-2015

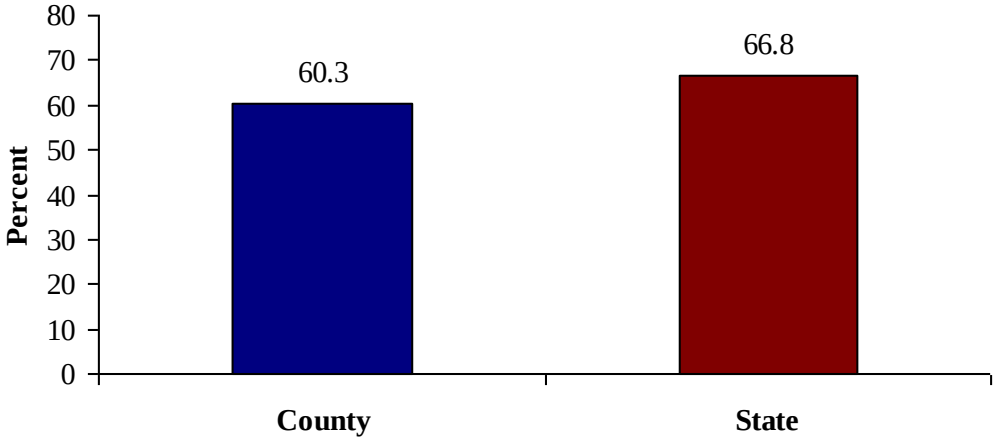


Source: Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

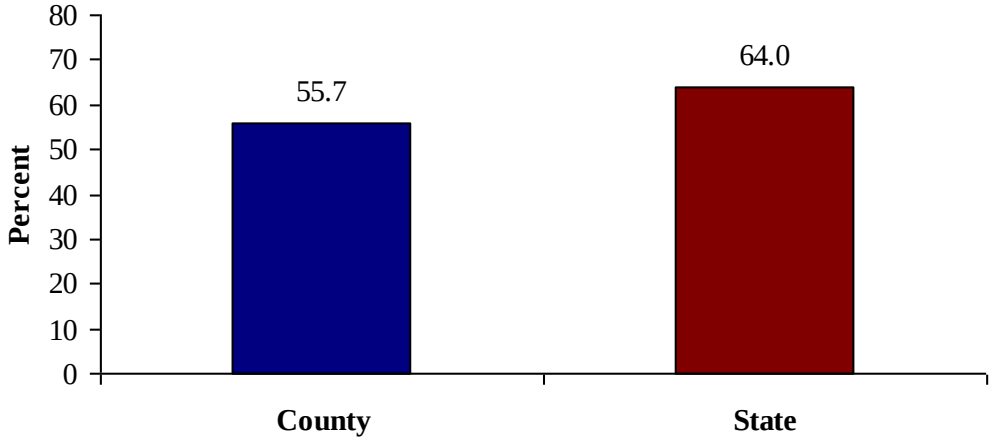
Forrest County

Health Behaviors Indicators

Percent of adults (18 years or older) reporting received a pneumonia vaccination, Forrest County & State, 2011-2015



Percent of adults (18 years or older) reporting received an influenza vaccination., Forrest County & State, 2011-2015

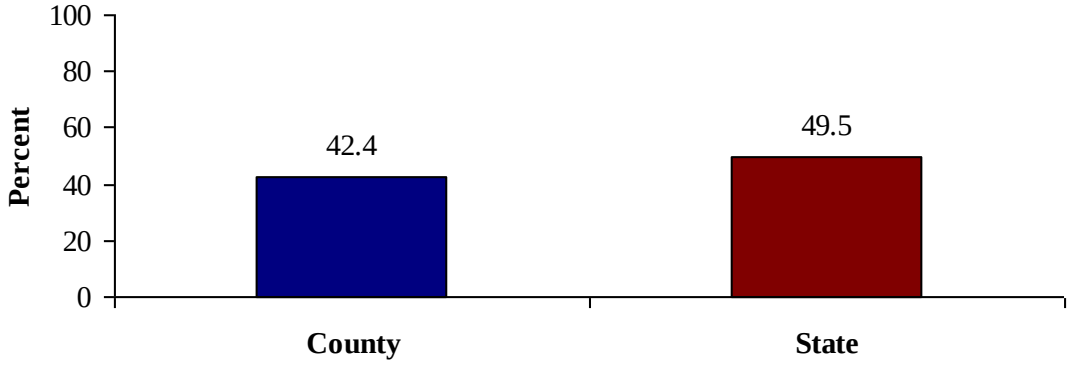


Source: Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

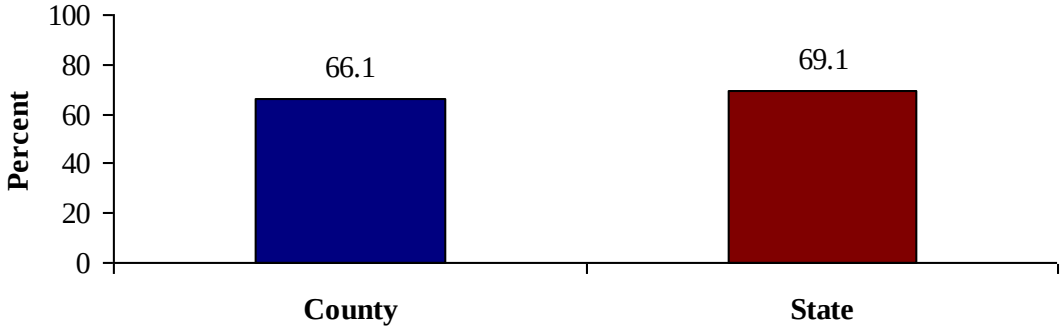
Forrest County

Health Behaviors Indicators

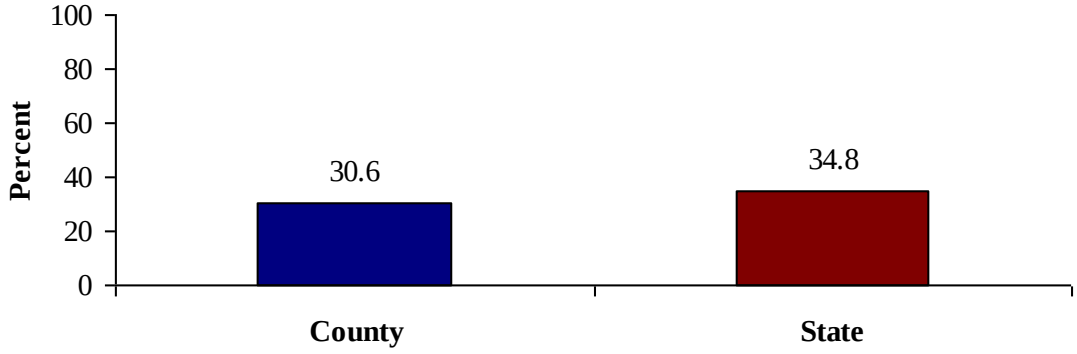
Percent of adults (18 years or older) reporting consuming at least five or more fruits daily, Forrest County & State, 2011-2015



Percent of adults (18 years or older) reporting consuming at least five or more vegetables daily, Forrest County & State, 2011-2015



Percent of adults (18 years or older) reporting doing physical activity or exercise during the past 30 days, Forrest County & State, 2011-2015



Source: Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Data Sources

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

The BRFSS is an ongoing, state-based, random digit-dialed telephone survey of non-institutionalized U.S. adults aged 18 years or older. The survey collects information on health risk behaviors, preventive health practices, and health care access primarily related to chronic disease and injury. The BRFSS operates in 50 states, the District of Columbia, and three U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam).Self-reported data may be subject to errors for several reasons: an individual may have difficulty remembering events that occurred a long time ago or the frequency of certain behaviors; some respondents may over-report socially desirable behaviors or under-report behaviors they perceive to be less acceptable (e.g., social desirability or recall bias); respondents may also report certain risks, behaviors and perceptions differently due to their respective cultural and linguistic backgrounds (e.g., non-response) and data might be subject to systematic error resulting from non-coverage (e.g., lower telephone coverage among populations of low socioeconomic status). Additional information on Mississippi BRFSS methods is available at: http://msdh.ms.gov/brfss/.

Mississippi Vital Statistics

The Mississippi STatistically Automated Health Resource System (MSTAHRS) allows for the retrieval of vital records and other health related data on Mississippi residents. Deaths are coded using the Tenth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10). Death rates are age-adjusted to the projected year 2000 U.S. standard population and expressed as per 100,000 population. Available at: http://mstahrs.msdh.ms.gov/

QuickFacts Data

QuickFacts data are derived from: Population Estimates, American Community Survey, Census of Population and Housing, Current Population Survey, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, State and County Housing Unit Estimates, County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, Survey of Business Owners, Building Permits. Available at: https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/

2010 Census Data

The Summary File 1 data tables provide the most detailed information available so far from the 2010 Census about a community's entire population, including cross-tabulations of age, sex, households, families, relationship to householder, housing units, detailed race and Hispanic or Latino origin groups, and group quarters. Available at: https://www.census.gov/2010census/

References

1. Mississippi Vital Statistics. The Mississippi STatistically Automated Health Resource System (MSTAHRS). http://mstahrs.msdh.ms.gov/

2. The Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). http://msdh.ms.gov/brfss/

3. 2010 Census Data. https://www.census.gov/2010census/data/

4. The American Community Survey (ACS). https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/

5. Mississippi Cancer Registry. http://cancer-rates.info/ms/

Mississippi State Department of Health

Health Data and Research

www. HealthyMS.com