



▶ POPULATION OF POLK COUNTY<sup>7</sup>:  
CURRENT-45,000  
2020- 55,000+



▶ THE MAJORITY OF POPULATION GROWTH IS DUE TO MIGRATION RATHER THAN BIRTHS



▶ 15.5% OF POPULATION AGED 65 YEARS AND OLDER

▶ 93% OF POPULATION LIVING IN A RURAL AREA<sup>3</sup>

# Polk County

Brought to you by: Amery Regional Medical Center, Osceola Medical Center, Polk County Health Department and St Croix Regional Medical Center

## Top 10 Health Focus Areas for Polk County

### Injury Prevention

- Polk County has more Injury deaths due to falls for age 65 and older (per 100,000 population) than Wisconsin as a whole<sup>1</sup>.
  - 141.56 per 100,000 Polk County
  - 111.02 per 100,000 Wisconsin
- Polk County has a higher rate of emergency department visits for injuries sustained in boating or off-road motor vehicle (including ATVs and snowmobile) accidents (per 100,000 population) than Wisconsin.<sup>2</sup>
  - 104.1 per 100,000 Polk County
  - 59.02 per 100,000 Wisconsin

### Sexual Health

- While Polk County is below the Wisconsin average, we still are above the national benchmark of Birth rate per 1,000 females age 15-19.<sup>3</sup>
  - 22 per 1,000 National Benchmark
  - 26 per 1,000 Polk County
  - 31 per 1,000 Wisconsin
- Among students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months, the percentage that used a condom during last sexual intercourse is much lower in Polk County than it is across the state.
  - Polk County<sup>4</sup>
    - Males = 21.5%                      Females = 24.2%
  - Wisconsin<sup>5</sup>
    - Males = 71.4%                      Females = 57.6%

### Mental Health

- Percentage of high school students who seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months
  - 15.3% Polk County<sup>4</sup>
  - 13.5% Wisconsin<sup>5</sup>
- Number of suicides completed by year in Polk County<sup>8</sup>
  - 2009- 4
  - 2010-7
  - 2011-11
  - 2012-7

### Physical Activity

- Polk County has a lower percent of adults aged 20 and over reporting no leisure time physical activity than Wisconsin, but both have room for improvement.<sup>3</sup>
  - 20% Polk County
  - 23% Wisconsin



### Nutrition

- Polk County has a lower proportion of all restaurants in the county that are fast food restaurants than Wisconsin but a much higher rate than the national benchmark.<sup>3</sup>
  - 25% National benchmark
  - 35% Polk County
  - 41% Wisconsin
- In December of 2012 the percent of Polk County and Wisconsin infants receiving WIC who are breastfed exclusively through three months is lower than the National benchmark.<sup>6</sup>
  - 46% National benchmark
  - 33.9% Polk County
  - 21.6% Wisconsin



## Tobacco Prevention and Control

- 24% of Polk County mothers report smoking during pregnancy compared to 14% of Wisconsin mothers who report smoking during pregnancy.<sup>3</sup>
- There is a lower percent of Polk County adults self-reporting smoking greater than 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and currently smoking (every day or most days) than Wisconsin adults but Polk County and Wisconsin both have higher percentages than national percentage.<sup>3</sup>
  - 14% Nationally
  - 17% Polk County
  - 20% Wisconsin

## Violence Prevention

- Both Wisconsin and Polk County violent crime rate per 100,000 population (includes offenses that involve face-to-face confrontation between the victim and the perpetrator, including homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) are significantly higher than the national benchmark.<sup>3</sup>
  - 73 per 100,000 National benchmark
  - 230 Polk County
  - 275 Wisconsin

## Obesity

- Both Polk County and Wisconsin have higher % of adults (age 20+) who are obese compared to the national benchmark.<sup>3</sup>
  - 25% National benchmark
  - 29% Polk County
  - 29% Wisconsin

## Alcohol and Drug Use

- Both Polk County and Wisconsin percentage of the adult population that reports either binge drinking, defined as consuming more than 4 (women) or 5 (men) alcoholic beverages on a single occasion in the past 30 days, or heavy drinking, defined as drinking more than 1 (women) or 2 (men) drinks per day on average, are significantly higher than the national benchmark.<sup>3</sup>
  - 8% National Benchmark
  - 23% Polk County
  - 24% Wisconsin
- A higher percent of Polk County students had their first drink of alcohol, other than a few sips, before age 13<sup>b</sup> than did the average Wisconsin student
  - Polk County<sup>4</sup>
    - Males = 23.7%                      Females = 16.4%
  - Wisconsin<sup>5</sup>
    - Males = 21.3%                      Females = 15.8%

## Oral Health

- In Polk County a higher percent population age 2+ did not have a dental visit in the past year than Wisconsin.<sup>3</sup>
  - 29% Polk County
  - 26% Wisconsin
- Polk County had a higher rate of Medicaid members receiving a dental service compared to Wisconsin, but both are very low.<sup>7</sup>
  - 29.7% Polk County
  - 23.43% Wisconsin

## References

1. Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system, <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/>, Injury Mortality Module, accessed 11/23/2012.
2. Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system, <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/>, Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits Module, accessed 11/23/2012.
3. *County health rankings & roadmaps: A healthier nation, county by county.* (2012). Retrieved from <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>
4. "2011 Polk County High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey." Survey. June 2012.
5. *Youth online: High school YRBS - Wisconsin 2011 results.* (2012.). Retrieved from <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/YouthOnline/App/Results.aspx?LID=WI>
6. Wisconsin WIC Program. ROSIE data query system, Breastfeeding Composite Report, accessed 1/1/2013.
7. *2008 dental utilization data tables.* (n.d.). Retrieved from [https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Tab/42/icscontent/provider/medicaid/Dentist/dental\\_utiliz/index.htm.spage](https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Tab/42/icscontent/provider/medicaid/Dentist/dental_utiliz/index.htm.spage)
8. Polk County Sheriff Department Data
9. *State of wisconsin department of administration: Wisconsin population & household projections.* (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/subcategory.asp?linksubcatid=105&linkcatid=11&linkid=64&locid=9>
10. COWSS – County Oral Health Wisconsin Surveillance System 2011 Report
11. US Census Bureau, "American Community Survey" Survey. 2005-2009.

## MORE ABOUT POLK COUNTY

- Polk County (20.5%) has a higher percent of individuals enrolled in the Medicaid & BadgerCare Plus programs than the statewide rates of enrollment (19.2%), except among those over age 65, where Polk County trails the state rate of enrollment.<sup>10</sup>
- Polk County has a higher rate of high school and junior college graduation than do either the state or the nation, but Polk County has a lower percent of Bachelor's Degrees or professional degrees than both the state and the nation.<sup>11</sup>