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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN OKEECHOBEE COUNTY ADDRESSES COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS



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Okeechobee, Fla. —The Florida Department of Health in Okeechobee County recognizes the value in measuring health outcomes and today acknowledged the 2019 County Health Rankings & Roadmaps tool released by the University of Wisconsin and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This study highlights the many community factors that influence health and uses established data, much of which is available from the department at www.FLHealthCHARTS.com.

A wide range of factors influence how long we live and how well we feel while alive from education and income to what we eat and how we move to the quality of our environment, housing and sanitation and the safety of our neighborhoods. For some, these essential elements for a healthy life are readily available, for others, the opportunities for healthy choices are significantly limited. We use the County Health Rankings to help communities bring people together to address the many factors that influence health and select strategies that can improve health for all.

While we are excited to highlight the significant improvements in our overall County Health Ranking over the past several years, we recognize the opportunities that still exist in our goal to make Okeechobee the healthiest rural community in Florida.

- Tiffany L. Collins, Administrator

These rankings are a snapshot of the health of counties across the country, and they emphasize that health is not a singular effort but a combined work in progress across all community partners. The department works in collaboration with local governments, non-profit organizations, health care facilities, business groups, schools, faith-based organizations and many other stakeholders to improve the health of all people in Okeechobee County. These rankings use data related to physical environments, social and economic factors, health behaviors and clinical care.

In Okeechobee County, the [Community Health Improvement Plan \(CHIP\)](#) is designed to address specific opportunities for improved health that have been identified by the community. The department has partnered with many stakeholders to implement the CHIP and collaborates regularly to track progress.

To explore more health indicators in your county, visit: <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org>.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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