Local Counties Included In Natl Health Survey

Two local Kansas counties are listed among the top ten healthiest in the state, while one local county just barely missed being ranked among the top ten least healthy.

That's the outcome of a nationwide study released this week.

Conducted by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for a third year, the County Health Rankings rank the overall health of nearly every county in all 50 states.

In Kansas, Doniphan County checks in as the third healthiest county, while Pottawatomie is sixth. On the opposite end of the spectrum, Brown County ranks 89th on the report, nearly placing it among the top ten least healthy counties statewide.

Other local Kansas county ratings include Nemaha in 33rd place, Marshall in 16th, Atchison ranks 46th, Jefferson is 51st, Jackson is 62nd while Leavenworth is 22nd.

According to the study, the most healthy county in Kansas is Riley, while Woodson is worst. In Nebraska, Pawnee County ranks 66th, Richardson County is 72nd, Nemaha County is 38th, while Johnson County is 33rd.

Overall, Cedar County, Nebraska ranks as the healthiest county in the state, while Kimball is worst. The study is conducted by considering a number of health related factors, including health behavior, clinical care, social and economic factors and physical environment.

Among specifics addressed in compiling the rankings are rates of adult smoking, adult obesity, excessive drinking, teenage births and the number of uninsured under the age of 65.

To view the entire study, state by state, go <u>here</u>: