

Snapshot of health system climate vulnerability and performance in...

Kentucky

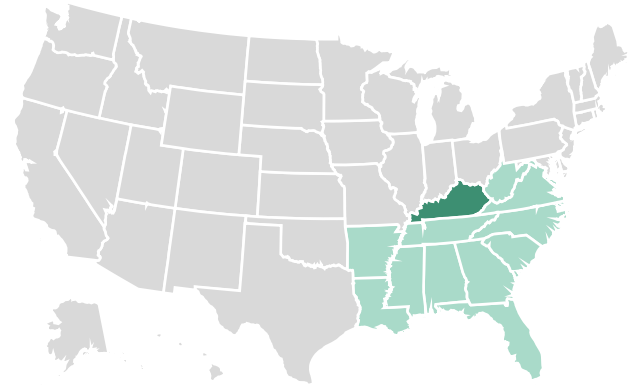


The
Commonwealth
Fund

Kentucky ranks #50 overall.

	National Rank	Rank Among Southeastern States*
Average Annual Air Quality Index	35 of 51	11 of 12
Health Risk from Extreme Heat	41	11
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards	30	5
Health Care Facility Flood Risk	38	5
State Energy Efficiency Policy	38	6
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact	50	12
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	48	11
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions	47	8

Kentucky ranks #11 in the Southeast region.



*Note: Southeast region includes AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV.

How Kentucky Compares to All States

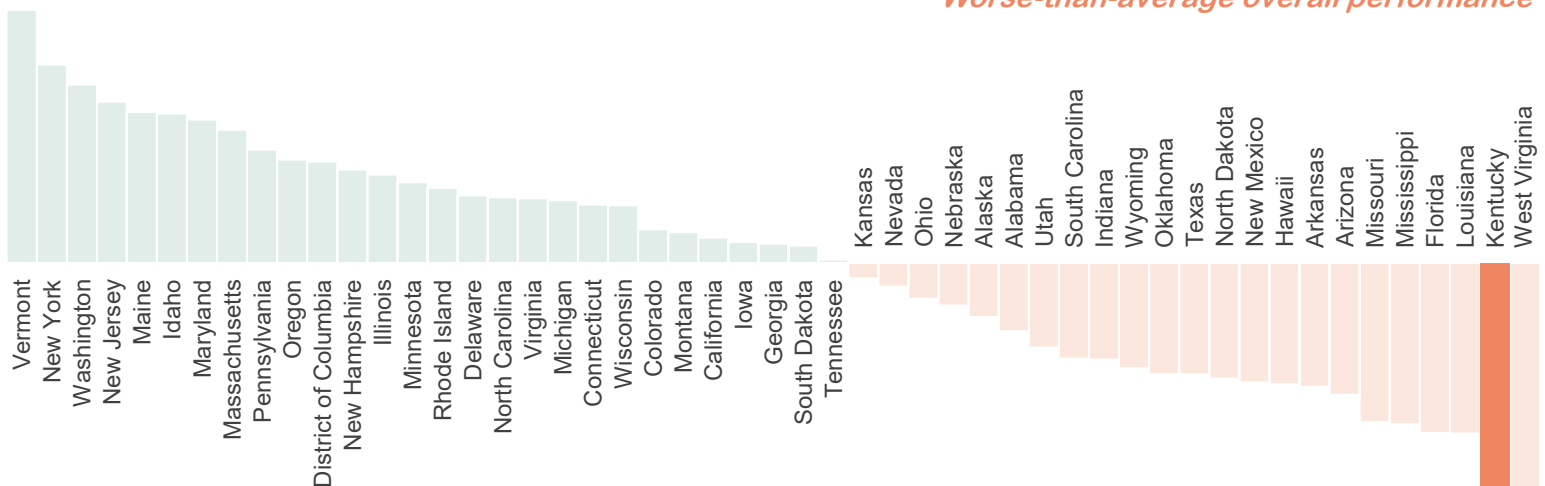


Table 1. Indicators of State Health System Climate Vulnerability and Performance

Indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	State rank
Average Annual Air Quality Index Scale of 0–500, with values below 100 generally considered good/moderate air quality	2022	43	42	35
Health Risk from Extreme Heat CDC/ATSDR ^a Heat and Health Index (0–1), with 1 indicating greatest risk	2024	0.58	0.51	41
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards FEMA ^b National Risk Index (0–100), with 100 indicating greatest risk	2023	58	54	30
Health Care Facility Flood Risk Percent of inpatient facility beds in high-hazard flood zones	2023	3.1%	2.5%	38
State Energy Efficiency Policy ACEEE ^c Energy Efficiency Scorecard (0–50), with 50 indicating best performance	2022	7	17	38
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact Health impact per unit of electricity generated, ^d where lower values indicate less health impact from emissions	2021	1.031	0.464	50
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (kg CO ₂ e) ^e	2020	1,912	1,362	48
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions Transportation-related GHG emissions from health care facility employee commuting (kg CO ₂ e per employee)	2022	2,598	2,169	47



Kentucky ranked best on:

Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards

On average, health care facilities in Kentucky are located in areas facing less risk from natural hazards than facilities in other states.



Kentucky ranked worst on:

State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact

In Kentucky, emissions from electricity generation result in more negative health impacts per unit of electricity than in other states. Negative health impacts are represented by years of healthy life lost, measured by disability-adjusted life year (DALYs).

Notes: (–) Indicates missing data. (a) Centers for Disease Control/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR). (b) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (c) American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). (d) Measured in Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) per gigawatt-hour (GWh) of electricity generated; DALYs are a common measure of the burden of disease, representing years of healthy life lost. (e) Kilograms of CO₂e stands for “carbon dioxide equivalent,” a standard measure of the warming effect of greenhouse gases.