



**Healthy
Democracy**

**Healthy
People**

Health and Democracy Scorecard

NASEM Workshop: Civic Engagement and Civic
Infrastructure to Advance Health Equity

June 14, 2021

Dawn Hunter, JD, MPH



Health and Democracy Scorecard

“In democracies, voting is an important action through which citizens engage in the political process. Although elections are only one aspect of political engagement, voting sends a signal of support or dissent for policies that ultimately shape the social determinants of health.”

Voting, health and interventions in healthcare settings: a scoping review
Chloe L. Brown et al., 2020

In general, would you say your health is poor, fair, good, very good, or excellent?"

Excellent Very Good Good Fair Poor

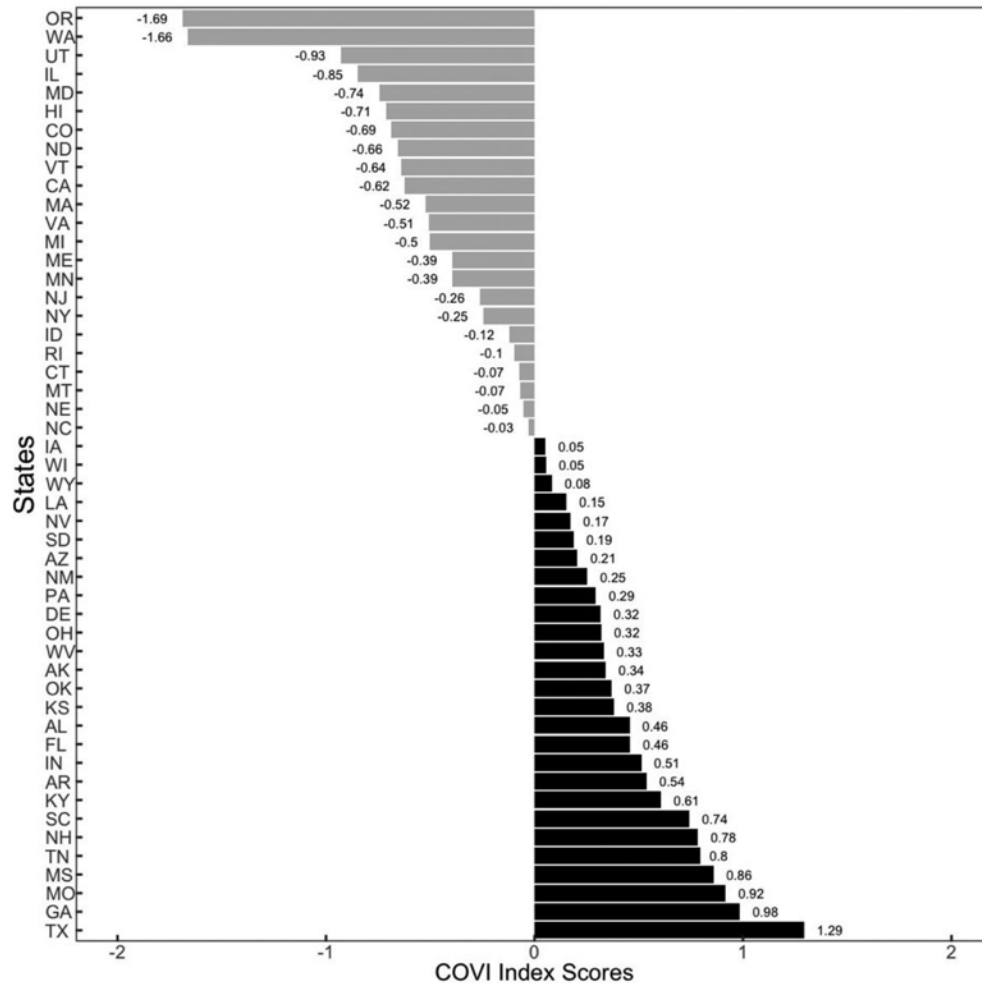


Poor

- Health risk behaviors like smoking
- Life expectancy, mortality rates
- Income level
- Education level
- Neighborhood safety



Cost of Voting Index, 2020



Scot Schraufnagel, Michael J. Pomante II, and Quan Li.
Election Law Journal:
Rules, Politics, and Policy.
Dec 2020. 503-509.



Connecting the data

Cost of Voting	Voter Turnout 2020 General Election	Self-Rated Health – % Good or Better	Avg. # Poor Mental Health Days in the last 30 days	% Adults Receiving Disability Benefits	% Uninsured
Top 15 States	71.7%	84.7%	4.15	4.34	10.27
US Average	66.8%	82.7%	4.3	4.7	11
Bottom 15 States	64.0%	80.7%	4.71	5.95	15.04



Connecting the data

Cost of Voting	Active Physicians per 100K pop	Chronic Disease Prevalence	Premature Mortality, YPPL per 100K pop	Infant Mortality Rate	% households below FPL
Top 15 States	305.70	8.85	6588	5.43	10.38
US Average	277.8	9.5	7350	5.67	12.2
Bottom 15 States	238.56	11.49	8901	6.52	13.46

» Focus Groups hosted by the Center for Civic Design





Dawn Hunter, JD, MPH

Deputy Director, Network for Public Health Law – Southeastern Region
dhunter@networkforphl.org

The Network for Public Health Law is a national initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.



Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation

The Health and Democracy Scorecard is supported by funding from the Center for Secure and Modern Elections.