



A Division of SAGE

**NEWS FROM CQ PRESS**  
*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**For more information, please contact:**  
Ben Krasney, Marketing Communications  
bkrasney@cqpress.com  
202-729-1846

*Health Care State Rankings 2009: Health Care Across America*  
Now Available from CQ Press

## **Minnesota Gets Highest Health Care Ranking in Annual Study**

*Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, Singapore and Washington DC* (April 6, 2009) — With *Health Care State Rankings 2009*, CQ Press is releasing the newest edition of the acclaimed annual publication providing the latest state-by-state rankings of roughly 500 health care factors for each of the fifty states. Data on the District of Columbia are also included.

Minnesota tops the list again this year, followed by Massachusetts and Hawaii. Minnesota ranked especially well in factors relating to health insurance and mortality, with a low age-adjusted death rate and only a small percentage of the population not covered by health insurance. It also fared well in aspects relating to general fitness, such as exercise, smoking habits, cholesterol levels, and blood pressure. Mississippi ranked lowest among the states, along with Louisiana and New Mexico. It scored above the national average in teenage birth rate and age-adjusted death rate. The percentage of people not covered by health insurance is more than twice as high as in Minnesota, and a third of the state's population suffers from high blood pressure.

### **METHODOLOGY**

*Health Care State Rankings 2009* examines statistics in the following seven health categories: births and reproductive health, deaths, facilities, finance, incidence of disease, providers, and physical fitness. These categories are broken down into twenty-one factors that reflect access to health care providers, affordability of health care, and the general health of the population. These factors are divided into two groups: those that are “negative,” for which a high ranking would be considered troublesome for a state, and those that are “positive,” for which a high ranking would be considered a good sign for a state. The methodology for determining the state health care rankings involves a multi-step process in which rates for each of the factors are processed through a formula that measures how a state compares to the national average for a given category. Once the score for each individual factor is calculated, scores are added to determine the state's overall ranking. A positive score indicates a good outlook and demonstrates that the state is above the national average.

Many reference books offer data without providing enough information to put them into context. *Health Care State Rankings 2009* serves as a solid resource for researchers, health policy professionals, and the community. Users can monitor important trends and compare the status of their state's health care to that of other states and the nation as a whole.

### **THE CQ PRESS STATE FACT FINDER SERIES**

*Health Care State Rankings* is one of five annual reference books published by CQ Press that analyze and rank states and cities in various categories. Other books in the series rank states using data on quality of life, education, and crime.

## **TITLE AND EDITOR INFORMATION**

### **Health Care State Rankings 2009: Health Care Across America**

Edited by Kathleen O'Leary Morgan and Scott Morgan

March 2009 | 8 ½ x 11 | 560 pages

Paperback | ISBN 978-1-60426-526-2 | \$68.00

Kathleen O'Leary Morgan and Scott Morgan have compiled books of state and city rankings for almost two decades. Kathleen O'Leary Morgan holds a master's degree in public administration and has served in a number of media and legislative liaison positions with the U.S. Department of Transportation, where she was also deputy director of congressional affairs. Scott Morgan is an attorney who served as chief counsel to Sen. Bob Dole's 1988 presidential campaign.

####

**CQ Press** is a leading publisher of books, directories, reference publications, and textbooks focusing on U.S. government, world affairs, communication, political science, and business, with a growing focus on digital content. Based in Washington, DC, CQ Press is a division of SAGE, the world's leading independent academic and professional publisher ([www.sagepublications.com](http://www.sagepublications.com)), and is known in classrooms, libraries, and professional markets for its objectivity, breadth and depth of coverage, and editorial excellence. [www.cqpress.com](http://www.cqpress.com)