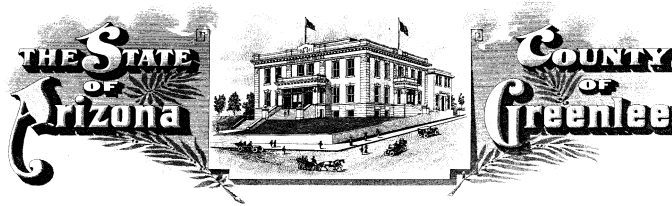


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NEWS RELEASE

Greenlee County Receives Accolades for Top Health Ranking

Greenlee County has, again, achieved top scores in the County Health Rankings and Roadmaps national study for 2019. This study, with new results annually, scores every county in the United States on thirty six (36) health measures, and ranks each county compared to other counties in that state. Over the last nine years, Greenlee County has been moving up in overall rankings. Each county in the nation is scored and ranked based on health outcomes and factors. Overall rankings for each county are based on the weighted results from these measures. Greenlee County has improved the outcomes and factors and remains ranked overall at second in the State of Arizona.

Health outcomes, such as premature death, poor physical and mental health, and low birth weight are ranked and compared throughout Arizona. Greenlee County ranks second, out of fifteen counties in Arizona, for these outcomes. The outcomes are closely related to, and influenced by, the health factors that the Community in Greenlee County has been working to improve. Health factors are also measured and ranked in this study. This year, Greenlee ranked second in Arizona for health factors.

Health factors, such as adult smoking, obesity, excessive drinking, teen births, sexually transmitted diseases, and mammography screenings are measured. Also included in these factors are measures on Greenlee County's environment, such as air pollution and drinking water violations. Social and economic factors, such as high school graduation and income inequality, are included in this measure. Greenlee County ranked number one in 2019 for social and economic factors, with its top ranking for high school graduation rate and extremely low level of children in poverty. Greenlee's income inequality rate is one of the lowest in the nation.

On March 26th, of this year, Greenlee County was recognized by a writer for U.S. News and World Report for great improvements in obesity rates, after its adult prevalence for obesity dropped from 34.5 to 29.6 percent. This robust advance topped the nation for obesity rate improvement in 2019.

Steve Rutherford, Greenlee County's Health Director said, "Our success with the County Health Rankings over the years is the result of community partnerships and community wide effort. Everyone has been involved. Freeport McMoRan has been steadfast in their support and efforts to make Greenlee County the healthiest community in Arizona. The FMI (Freeport McMoRan) Community Center in Morenci, with its' state-of-the-art facility and energetic staff, has been a huge driver in our success. The United Way of Graham and Greenlee Counties has supported many projects to provide greater access to healthy activities throughout the county. The schools are doing a fantastic job of educating and guiding our young toward healthier choices, hosting Health and Science fairs, and increasing physical activity and better nutrition in our schools. The towns of Clifton and Duncan have increased access to parks and physical activities for all to enjoy. The Residents of Greenlee County have, ultimately, been responsible for these successes. As a community, we identified a problem, and as a community, we have been tackling it."

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