

# Public Health for Growth, Growth for Public Health

Sue Lynn Ledford, RN BSN MPA  
Wake County  
Public Health Director



*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Why is Public Health important to Wake County ?

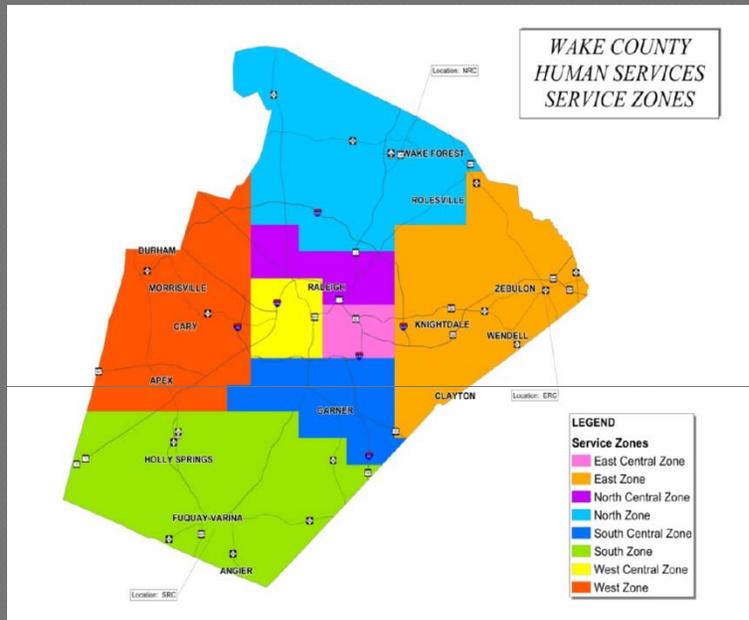
---

- There is a link to overall prosperity and positive outcomes for individuals and for our growing community
- **The Business Cost of Poor Health**  
<http://www.fusionsouth.com/2010/01/20/the-business-cost-of-poor-health/>
  - **Direct Costs** (such as outpatient care, pharmacy charges, inpatient care and emergency room visits)
  - **Indirect Costs** (short-term disability, workers' compensation, turnover, and absenteeism)



*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Growth and Public Health: Our Physical Health



## Top 5 Most Important Health Issues

	NC	EC	SC	WC	N	E	S	W
1	Obesity / overweight	Mental health	Obesity / overweight	Obesity / overweight	Mental health	Obesity / overweight	Injuries - Motor vehicle	Obesity / overweight
2	Mental health	Teenage pregnancy	Mental health	Mental health	Obesity / overweight	Mental health	Obesity / overweight	Mental health
3	Teenage pregnancy	Not enough access to health services	Diabetes	Not enough access to health services	Injuries - Motor vehicle	Diabetes	Allergies	Injuries - Motor vehicle
4	Allergies	Obesity / overweight	Injuries	Injuries	Not enough access to health services	Teen pregnancy	Diabetes	Infectious / contagious diseases
5	Cancer	Injuries	Teenage pregnancy	Cancer	Infectious / contagious diseases	Asthma	Mental health	Aging-related problems



THE NORTH CAROLINA  
Institute for Public Health

*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Growth and Public Health: Our Physical Health



*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Growth and Public Health: Our Mental Health

- Access to green spaces and nature
- Time spent in commutes



[http://www.wakeforestnc.gov/residents/parksrecreation\\_facilities\\_joynerpark.aspx](http://www.wakeforestnc.gov/residents/parksrecreation_facilities_joynerpark.aspx)



[http://www.wral.com/news/news\\_briefs/story/1832755/](http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/story/1832755/)

*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Growth and Public Health: Our Safety

- Motor vehicle accidents
- Pedestrian injuries and fatalities

Posted: March 11, 2009

Updated: July 27, 2009

## Multiple vehicles hit pedestrian in fatal Raleigh crash

 [Get News Alerts to your Email & Cell Phone](#)  
Breaking News | Headlines: 7am | Noon | 4pm | Video Alerts

Share:  1  0  1 



◀ 1 / 2 ▶

RALEIGH, N.C. — At least four vehicles hit a man who died in a hit-and-run wreck on Falls of Neuse Road on Wednesday morning, the accident report shows.

The victim was identified as Lewis Avery Gray, 71, of Raleigh, police department spokesman Jim Sughrue said.

Gray was hit around 6:55 a.m. as he attempted to cross the road where there was no marked crosswalk, the report stated. The first vehicle, which is believed to be a blue Chevrolet Blazer or similar sport utility vehicle, struck Gray near the intersection with Spring Forest Road, stopped and then drove off. Three more vehicles went on to hit Gray.

### RELATED

-  [Pedestrian hit multiple times](#)
-  [Second Child Dies After Being Hit by Vehicle in Raleigh](#)
-  [Parents: Sons' Deaths Were God's Will](#)
-  [WEB ONLY: Mom, Dad Speak About Sons' Accidental Deaths](#)
-  [Map](#)



<http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/4711170/>



*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Growth and Public Health- Our Environment



Water Quality



Air Quality



Heat Island Effect



*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Health Impact Assessments

- New Bern Avenue Corridor
- Blue Ridge Corridor



<http://www.raleighnc.gov/search/content/PlanLongRange/Articles/NewBernCorridorStudy.html>



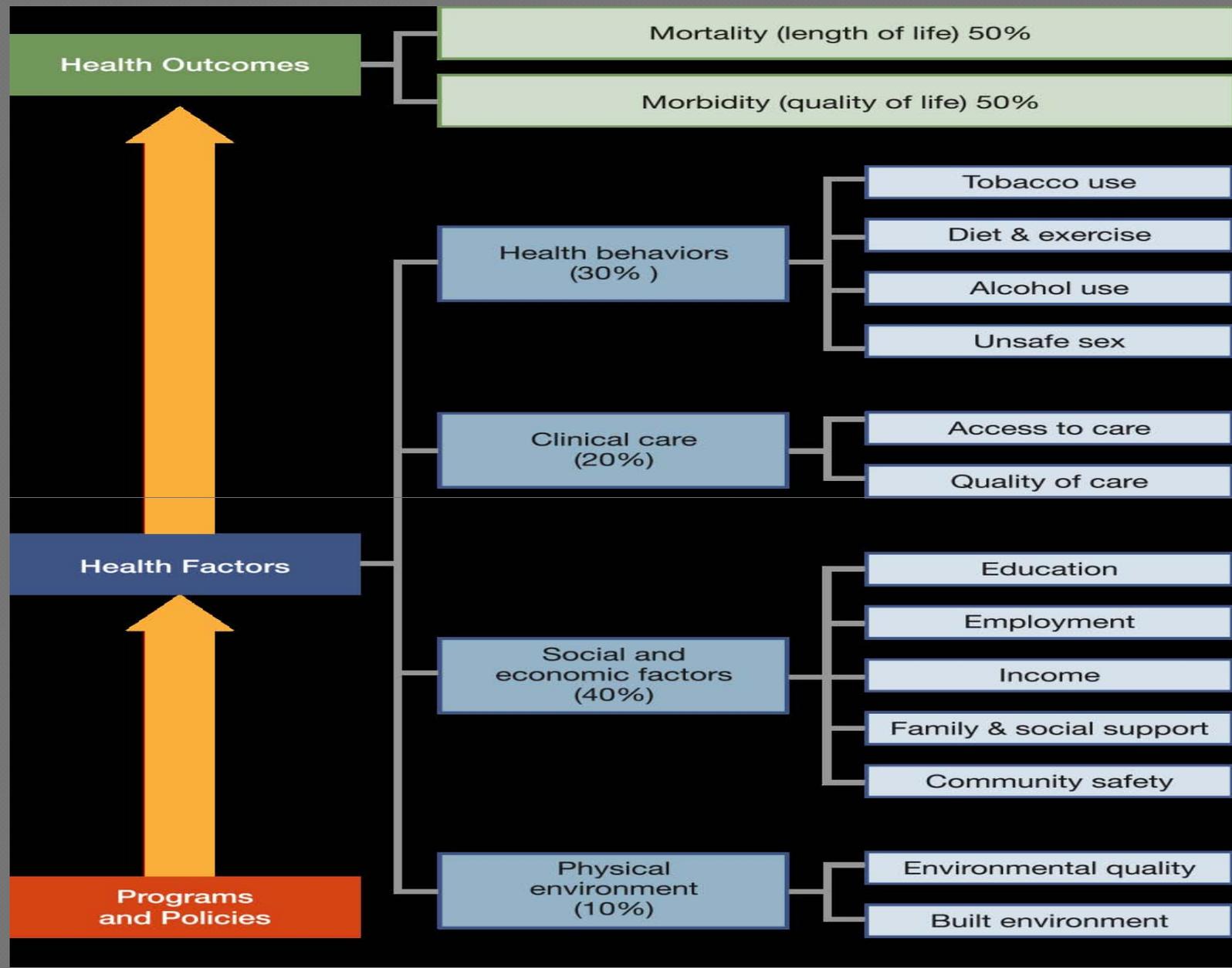
*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# What Is the Driver of Health Outcomes ?

*National County Health Rankings are based upon this model of population health improvement*

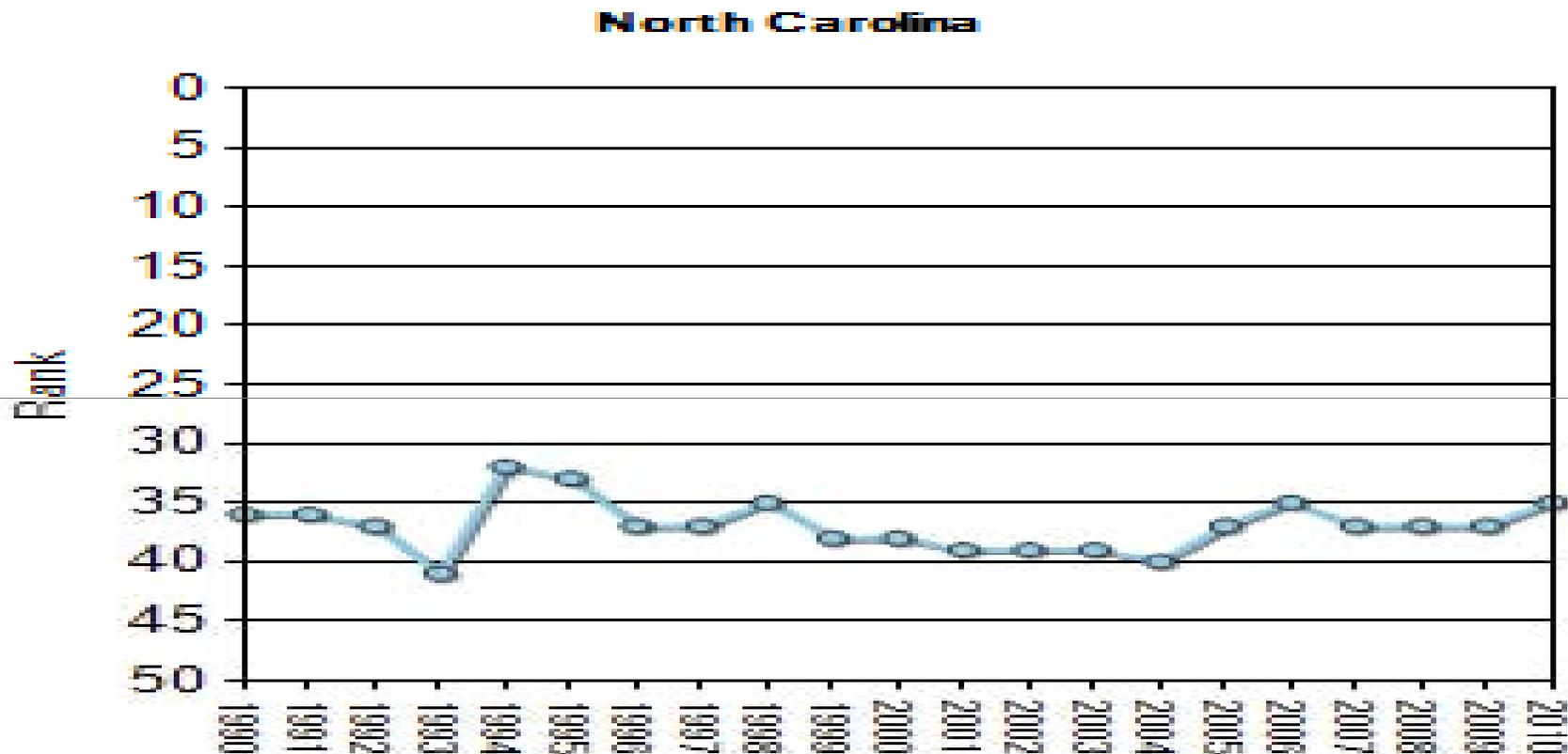


*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*



Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects

# North Carolina 35<sup>th</sup> in the Nation



- <http://www.americashealthrankings.org/yearcompare/2009/2010/NC.aspx>



*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Wake County Health Rankings

---

- 2011 MATCH (Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health) rankings rate Wake as
  - Healthiest county in NC (1)
  - 92<sup>nd</sup> in physical environment
    - Measures were air pollution air particulate days, air pollution ozone days, access to healthy foods, and access to recreational facilities



# This requires collaboration and working smarter



*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Sources

## **The Business Cost of Poor Health**

<http://www.fusionsouth.com/2010/01/20/the-business-cost-of-poor-health/>  
[http://www.hreonline.com/pdfs/05022008Extra\\_MayoCostOfHealth.pdf](http://www.hreonline.com/pdfs/05022008Extra_MayoCostOfHealth.pdf)

Environmental Protection Agency. Heat Island Effect.

<http://www.epa.gov/heatisld/about/index.htm>

Accessed 4-4-11

Frumppkin, Howard, MD, DrPH. Urban Sprawl and Public Health

[http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/articles/Urban Sprawl and Public Health PHR.pdf.](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/articles/Urban_Sprawl_and_Public_Health_PHR.pdf)

Accessed 4-4-11.

2010 Wake County Community Health Assessment.

Wake County Human Services, 2011.

The County Health Rankings. University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/north-carolina/wake>

Accessed 4-4-11.

North Carolina Health Ranking:

<http://www.americashealthrankings.org/yearcompare/2009/2010/NC.aspx>



*Public Health Prevents, Promotes, Protects*

# Thank you

---

Sue Lynn Ledford RN BSN MPA  
Wake County Public Health Director  
WCCHS – Public Health Division  
[sue.ledford@wakegov.com](mailto:sue.ledford@wakegov.com)