

# What Creates Health: *The Story behind the Story*

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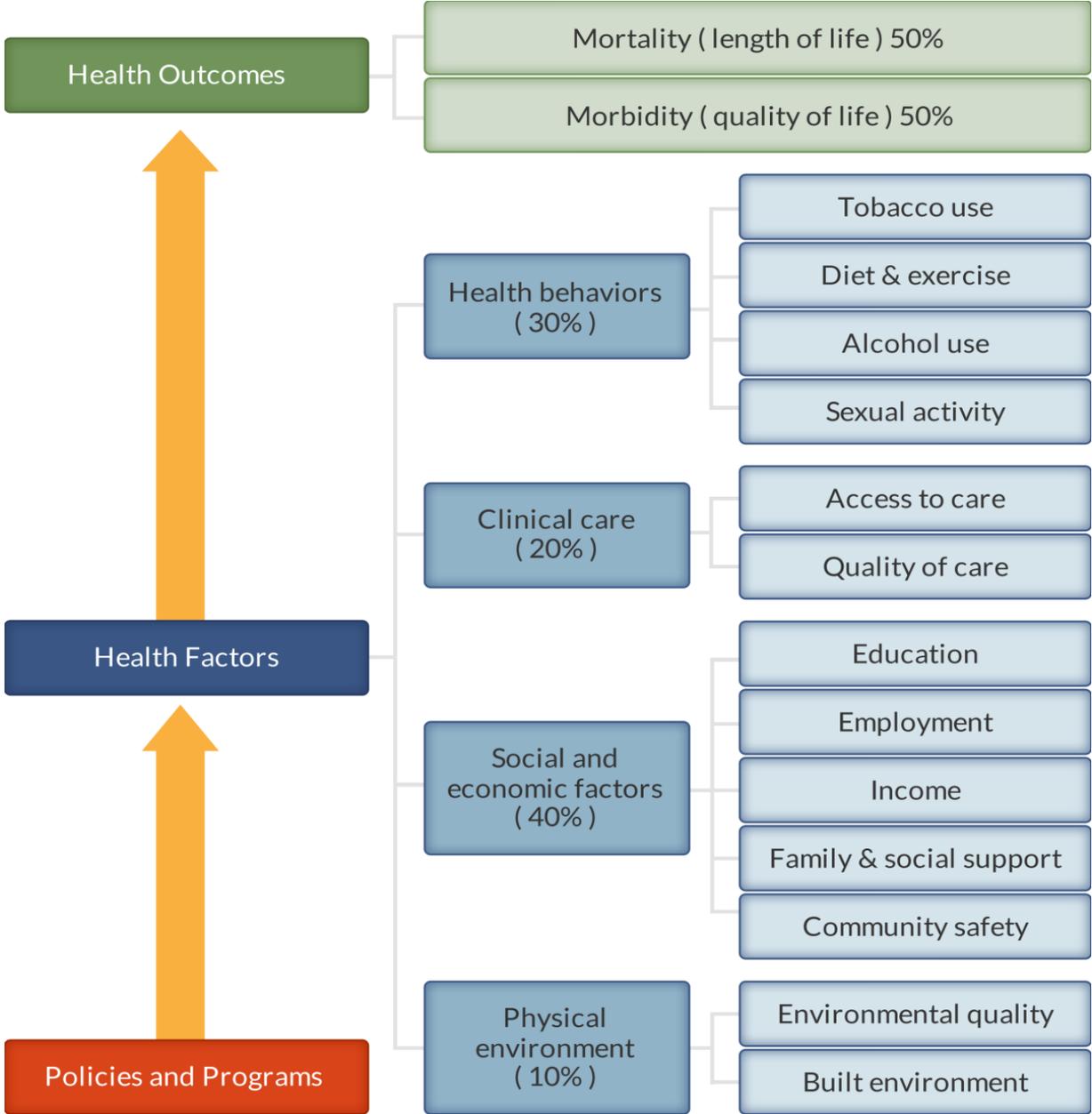








# County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program

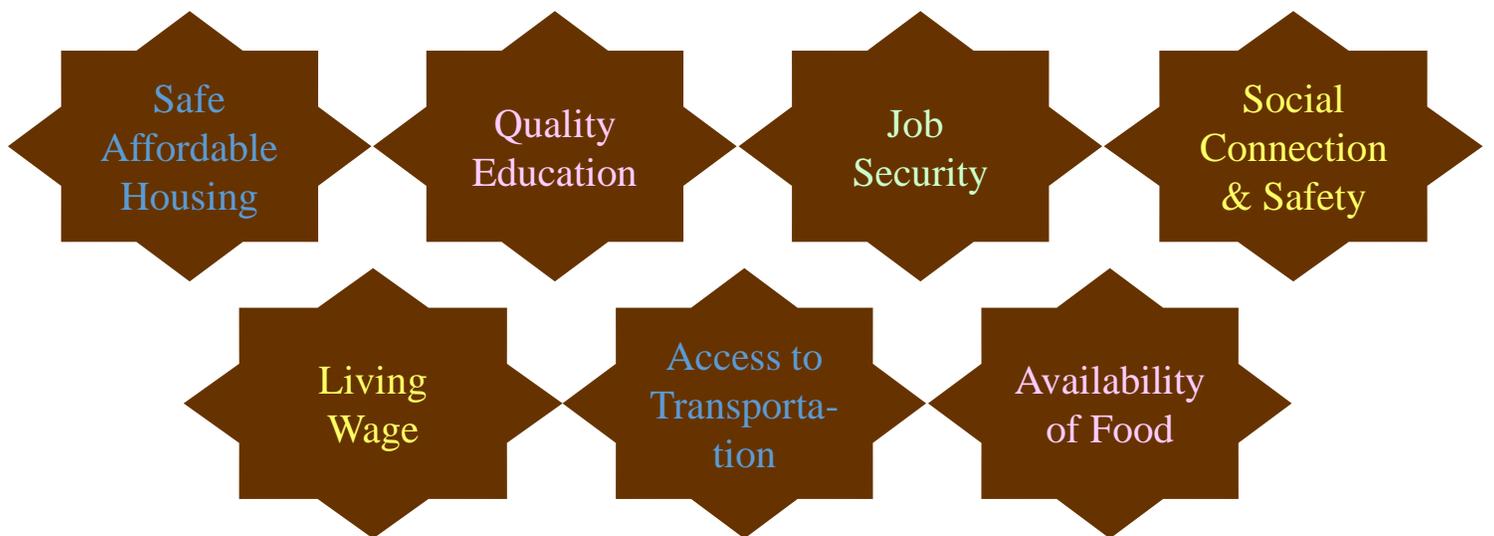


County Health Rankings model ©2012 UWPHI

This is the conceptual model of population health developed by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. Counties are ranked, within state, by 'Health Outcome' and also by 'Health Factors'.

The economic and social conditions that influence the health of individuals, communities, and jurisdictions as a whole.

They include, but are not limited to:



# The Story Behind the Story:

Saying What we Mean & Meaning What we Say

## Health Disparity

**“A disproportionate difference in health between groups of people.”**

## Health Inequity

**“Differences in population health status and mortality rates that are systemic, patterned, unfair, unjust, and actionable, as opposed to random or caused by those who become ill.”** Margaret Whitehead

## Health Equity

Health equity means that all have a fair and just opportunity for good health

Health equity is the ethical and human rights principle or value that motivates us to eliminate health disparities

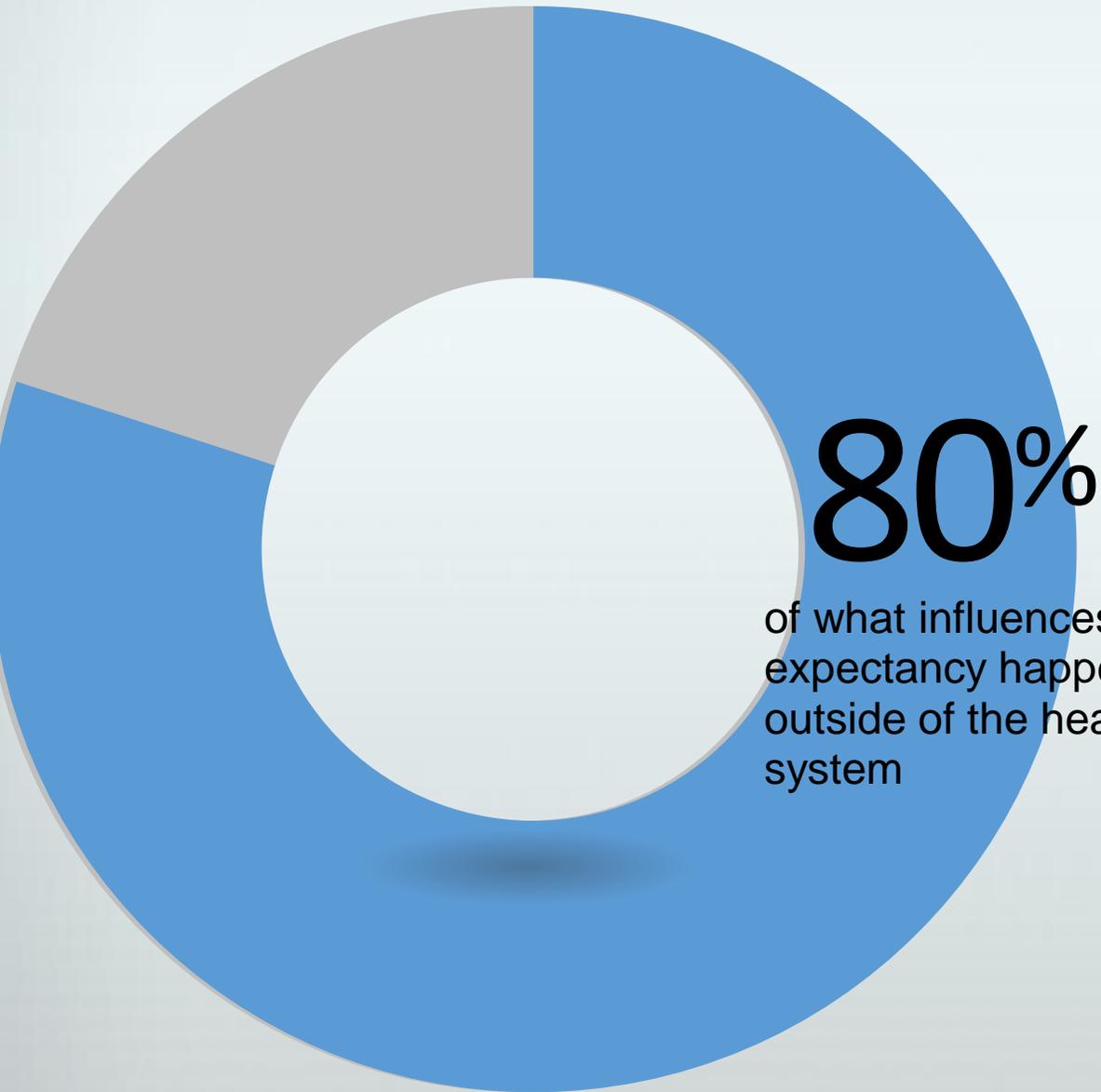
-RWJF/Paula Braveman, UCSF

“This requires removing obstacles to health such as

- poverty,
- discrimination,
- and their consequences,

including

- powerlessness and
- lack of access to good jobs with fair pay,
- quality education and housing,
- safe environments, and
- health care.”



**80%**  
of what influences your life expectancy happens outside of the healthcare system

# Income and poverty drive life expectancy and many health conditions



**In Michigan, 16.7% of the population lives below the poverty level.**



**6% of the population is unemployed<sup>1</sup>.**

These individuals, their families, and their children face risks that wealthier Michiganders do not.



**The relationship between income and health is well established.** People living in poverty have a lower life expectancy, higher rates of disease and disability, and report poorer health than wealthier people<sup>2</sup>.



**Poverty impacts health in many ways.** It impacts access to medical care, food quality, living conditions, and a host of other factors. It also leads to stress, trauma, and coping behaviors that can threaten health.



**Impoverished communities are more likely to be exposed to businesses and industries that effect health.** Businesses that encourage risky health behaviors, like smoking, tend to target low income communities, as do industries that damage air and water quality.

# The poverty level differs greatly by racial and ethnic groups in Michigan

## ***Michiganders living in poverty:***

12.6% of white Michiganders live in poverty,  
34.6% black, non-Hispanic and  
35.3% of Arab Michiganders live below the poverty level.

White, non-Hispanic Michiganders are less likely than any other racial or ethnic group to experience the detrimental impact of living in poverty.

## ***Consequences of racial discrimination/Institutional racism***

The impact of poverty on health is complicated, deep and is unequally distributed in our state.



**A PUBLIC HEALTH FRAMEWORK FOR REDUCING HEALTH INEQUITIES**  
**BAY AREA REGIONAL HEALTH INEQUITIES INITIATIVE**

