



Recovery Ecosystem Index Mapping Tool

Action Guide – How to Apply the Tool





What's New?

The Recovery Ecosystem Index and mapping tool was updated in August 2024. The Recovery Ecosystem Index has been restructured and recalculated for all counties.

- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment component includes substance use treatment facilities per capita, the average distance to the nearest medication-assisted treatment (MAT) provider, and mental health providers per capita. The buprenorphine provider indicator was due to the change in policy to remove the X-waiver requirement.
- Continuum of SUD Support includes average distance to nearest syringe services
 program (SSP), Narcotics Anonymous (NA) or Self-management and Recovery Training
 (SMART) meetings per capita, drug-free communities coalition presence, adult drug
 court presence, state SUD policy environment score, and social associations per capita.
 The residential treatment facility indicator was removed because it was a subset of the
 substance use treatment facilities per capita indicator. Social associations per capita
 was added from the Social and Infrastructure component.
- The Social and Infrastructure component has been removed from the Recovery
 Ecosystem Index, but the data are still available on the county fact sheet, and the
 indicators are now available as overlays. These indicators include vehicle availability,
 broadband access, and severe housing cost burden. Social associations per capita has
 been moved to the Continuum of SUD Support component.

Other enhancements to the Recovery Ecosystem Index mapping tool include:

- Users can now select each individual Recovery Ecosystem Index indicator as a base map or overlay variable.
- For select indicators, map users can select a specific state and the base map will
 recalculate its quartiles to show the distribution for that given state. The legend in the
 upper right corner recalculates, as well. This feature is available for the continuous
 Recovery Ecosystem Index indicators (substance use treatment facilities per 100k,
 average distance to nearest MAT provider, mental health providers per 100k, average
 distance to nearest SSP, NA or SMART meetings per 100k, state SUD policy
 environment score, and social associations per 10k).

There is an important methodological change to note for the drug overdose mortality data. For the 2024 update, the drug overdose mortality data is now presented for all ages, not ages 15 to 64 as was included in past iterations of the tool.



Acronyms

MAT	Medication-assisted treatment
MOUD	Medication for opioid use disorder
NA	Narcotics Anonymous
SMART	Self-Management and Recovery Training
SSP	Syringe services program
SUD	Substance use disorder



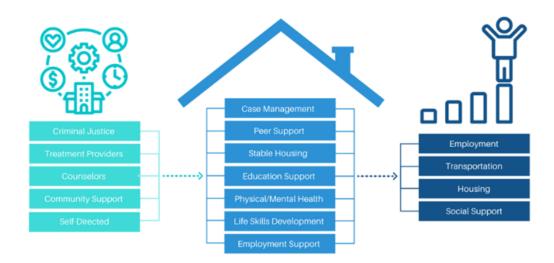
Understand the Concept of a Recovery Ecosystem

It is helpful to first understand the concept of a recovery ecosystem before exploring the Recovery Ecosystem Index Mapping Tool.

Millions of individuals are estimated to have a SUD, contributing to serious health, social, and economic consequences. Ensuring services and resources to support individuals in recovery from SUD is good for our residents, our communities, and our economies.

A recovery ecosystem creates an environment that individuals in recovery and their families need. It provides peer and social support, education and training opportunities, employment opportunities, transportation support, childcare support, leisure and recreational opportunities, housing, and access to health care and mental health services. A recovery ecosystem removes barriers to pursuing meaningful employment, maintaining recovery, transitioning to a productive and positive quality of life, and engaging with family and community. Developing a recovery ecosystem in your community supports individuals and families by providing a range of evidence-based methods for dealing with the complex issue of SUD. For more information on recovery ecosystems, visit: FletcherGroup.org.

How A Recovery Ecosystem Creates Recovery Capital



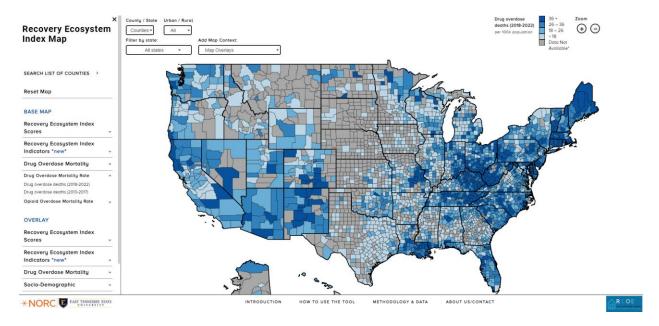


Gather Data from the Tool

Users can gather data on a range of indicators from the tool, such as Recovery Ecosystem Index scores and indicator data, drug overdose mortality rates, and sociodemographic, economic, and housing and infrastructure data. These data can be used in grant, proposal, and report writing as well as inform community planning.

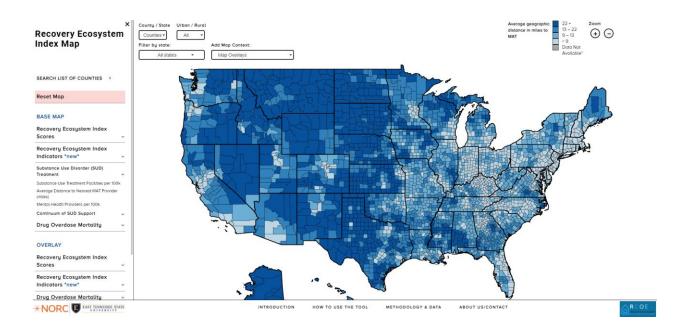
Base Map Data

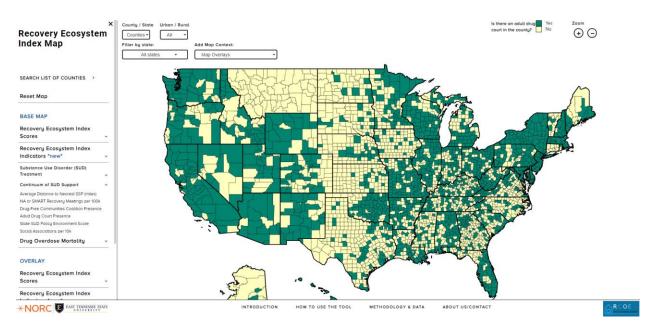
The tool's base map options include the Recovery Ecosystem Index scores and components' scores, individual indicator data, or drug overdose mortality (shown below). View these base maps to see distributions across the United States.



A new feature of the 2024 update is the ability to also map the individual indicators included in the Recovery Ecosystem Index. As shown below, this includes measures such as average distance to nearest MAT provider (miles) and adult drug court presence.



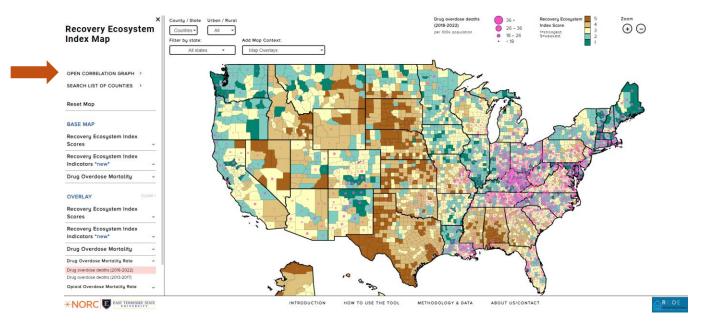






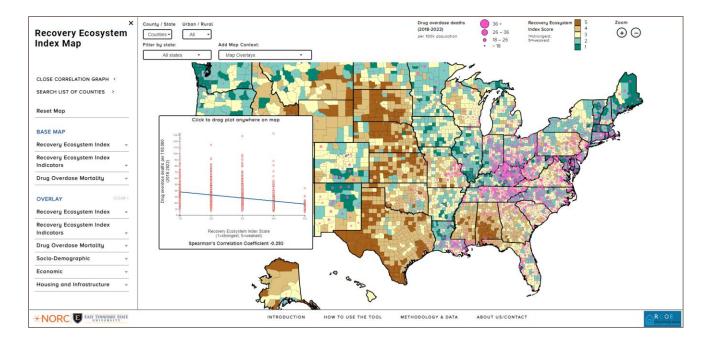
Comparing Base Maps with Secondary Data

You can also overlay variables onto the base map. For example, the map below shows drug overdose mortality, 2018-2022, overlaid onto the Recovery Ecosystem Index score base map. This allows you to explore potential associations between variables included in the tool.



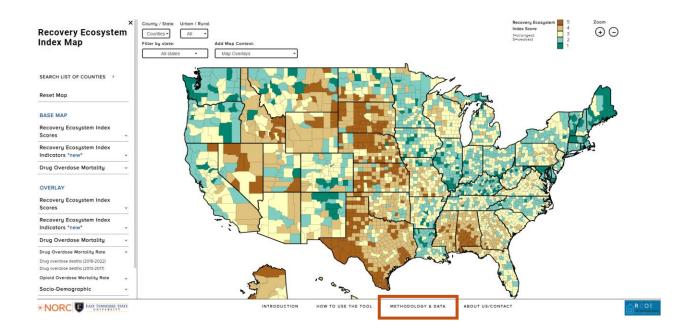
Select "Open Correlation Graph" on the left navigation pane (shown above) to explore the association between two variables. You can hover over a given dot on the scatterplot to identify outliers that may be an area of need. For example, McDowell County, West Virgina, had an overdose rate of 133.0 deaths per 100,000 in 2018-2022 but an Recovery Ecosystem Index score of 4 (1=strongest; 5=weakest). This is one of the highest drug overdose mortality rates in the country and a weaker recovery ecosystem.





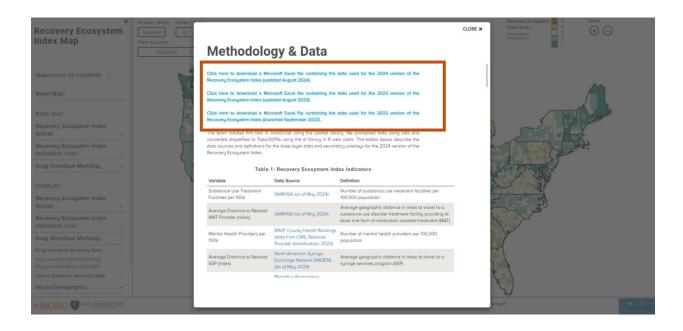
Raw Data Download

Users can download an Excel file of the raw data within the tool. To access this data, click on the 'Methodology & Data' tab at the bottom of the page. The 'Methodology & Data Sources' page provides tables of all variables and their sources and definitions. Users can also find details on the methodology behind the Recovery Ecosystem Index there.





Once the 'Methodology & Data Sources' is open, users will see a light blue hyperlink at the top of the page. Click on this link to download the raw Excel file. The data provided in the Excel file are provided in Table 1.



A	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	I	J
GEOID	Name	State	Urbanicity	White non- Hispanic	Black non- Hispanic	Hispanic or Latino	Asian non- Hispanic	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander non- Hispanic	American Indian/Alaska Native non- Hispanic
0	United States			58.9%	12.1%	18.7%	5.7%	0.2%	0.6%
01	Alabama	AL		64.6%	26.2%	4.6%	1.4%	0.0%	0.3%
01001	Autauga County	AL	Urban	72.6%	19.6%	3.2%	1.1%	0.0%	0.1%
01003	Baldwin County	AL	Urban	82.3%	8.3%	4.8%	0.9%	0.0%	0.2%
01005	Barbour County	AL	Rural	44.6%	46.9%	4.8%	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%
01007	Bibb County	AL	Rural	74.2%	20.7%	2.9%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%
01009	Blount County	AL	Urban	85.7%	1.2%	9.7%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
01011	Bullock County	AL	Rural	20.6%	68.9%	8.8%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
01013	Butler County	AL	Rural	50.9%	44.6%	1.7%	1.3%	0.0%	0.4%
01015	Calhoun County	AL	Urban	70.5%	21.7%	4.1%	0.6%	0.2%	0.1%
01017	Chambers County	AL	Rural	54.3%	40.8%	3.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
01019	Cherokee County	AL	Rural	90.7%	4.0%	1.9%	0.1%	0.0%	0.5%
01021	Chilton County	AL	Rural	79.1%	9.4%	8.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
01023	Choctaw County	AL	Rural	56.5%	39.9%	1.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
01025	Clarke County	AL	Rural	51.2%	45.4%	1.5%	0.4%	0.0%	0.1%
01027	Clay County	AL	Rural	80.1%	12.6%	3.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
01029	Cleburne County	AL	Rural	92.2%	2.7%	2.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
01031	Coffee County	ΔΙ	Rural	68 8%	16 1%	2 <u>1</u> %	1 1%	n n%	n 5%
< > da	ata +					: 4			



Table 1. Variables Included in Raw Excel File

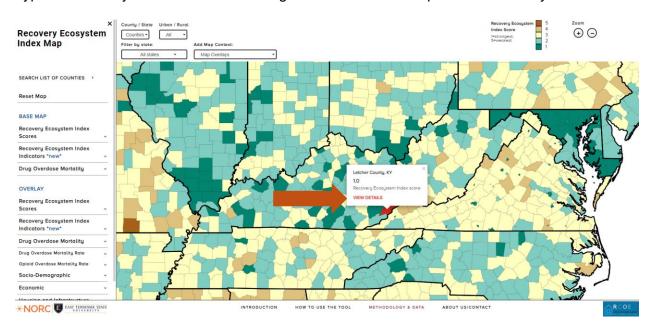
	Urbanicity (Rural/Urban)				
0 1 0	Race and Ethnicity				
Socio-Demographic	Age				
	Educational Attainment				
	Median Household Income				
Economic	Labor Force Participation Rate				
	Poverty Rate				
	One or More Vehicles				
Housing and Infrastructure	Broadband Access				
	Severe Housing Cost Burden				
Overdose Mortality*	Drug Overdose Mortality (2018-2022; 2013-2017)				
Overdose Mortality	Opioid Overdose Mortality (2018-2022; 2013-2017)				
	Recovery Ecosystem Index score				
Recovery Ecosystem Index Scores	Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment score				
	Continuum of SUD Support score				
	Substance Use Treatment Facilities per 100k				
	Average Distance to Nearest MAT Provider (miles)				
	Mental Health Providers per 100k				
	Average Distance to Nearest SSP (miles)				
Basayany Fasayatam	NA or SMART Meetings per 100k				
Recovery Ecosystem	Average Distance to Nearest MAT Provider				
	Drug-Free Communities Coalition Presence				
	Drug Court Presence				
	State SUD Policy Environment Score				
*N t - 1 - 0004 th t -	Social Associations per 10k				

^{*}Note: In 2024, the overdose mortality rate is for all ages, and in 2023 and 2022 the overdose mortality data was for the population ages 15 to 64. These rates should not be compared.



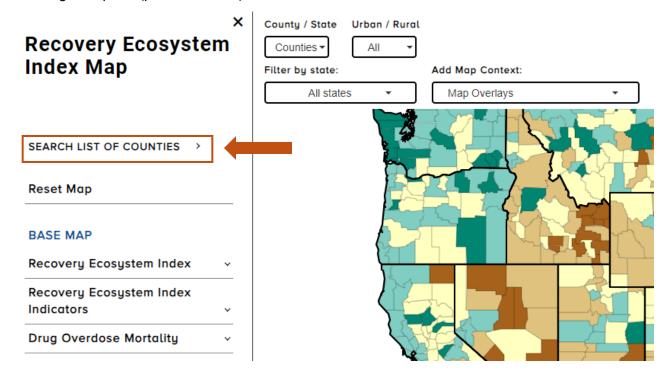
County Fact Sheets

Data can also be gathered from the county-level fact sheets, which include county, state, and national-level data. Users can find their county's fact sheet by hovering over the county on the map and clicking. A pop-up with the county name, the Recovery Ecosystem Index score, and a hyperlink that says 'View Details'. Clicking on 'View Details' will provide the county fact sheet.

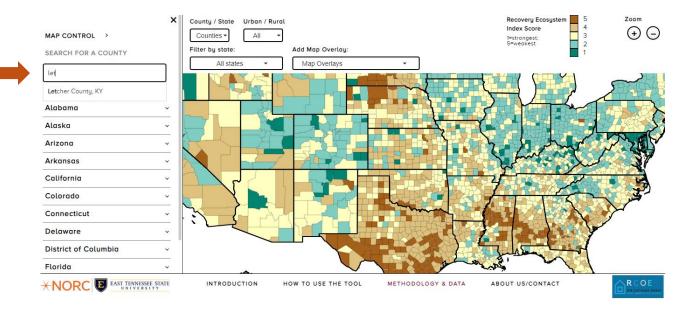




Users can additionally find their county's fact sheet by clicking on 'Search List of Counties' in the left navigation pane (pictured below).



Users can then type in their county, and a drop-down list will appear (pictured below). Select the correct county, and the county factsheet will appear.





The county fact sheet landing page provides the overall Recovery Ecosystem Index and components' scores, indicator data, county population size, and county rural vs. urban designation.

CLOSE X Print Data Tables Letcher County, KY Select data table: Recovery Ecosystem Index Scores 🔻 Component Score Sub-Component Letcher County, KY United States Kentucky Recovery Ecosystem Index Score Substance Use Treatment Facilities 27.9 Substance per 100k 1=strongest; 5=weakest Use Disorder Average Distance to Nearest MAT Provider (miles) 21,490 Treatment Population (Rural) 81.4 Mental Health Providers per 100k 292.8 340.5 70.0 Hover over a variable in the data table, and its NA or SMART Recovery Meetings per 23.3 definition will appear below Has there been a Drug-Free Communities Coalition grant recipient No Continuum of in the county in the past 3 years? SUD Support Is there an adult drug court in the 48.3% 47.3% State SUD Policy Environment Score 5.0 N/A (0=lowest; 10=highest) Social Associations per 10k



Start Discussions About Recovery Ecosystems with Local Partners

Recovery Ecosystem Index and its' components scores can be used to start and guide community discussions with local partners.

Users can choose between four data tables using the 'Select data table' drop-down menu on the county fact sheet:

- Recovery Ecosystem Index Scores
- 2. Drug Overdose Mortality
- 3. Socio-Demographic
- 4. Economic
- 5. Housing and Infrastructure



The data tables can be circulated to local partners to guide discussions about available resources and contextual information for your community. For example, relevant questions may be:

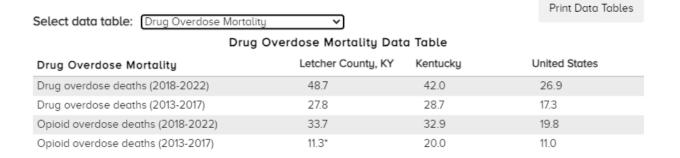
- 1. Where are the gaps in our community?
- 2. What do we want more data on? What data do we have access to for our local community related to the recovery ecosystem?
 - a. What additional data are available for our local community?
- 3. How can we strengthen our recovery ecosystem?
- 4. Who should we involve when strengthening our recovery ecosystem?
- 5. What are the other factors present in our community that may impact our recovery ecosystem?



Recovery Ecosystem Index Table

Select data	Print Data Tables				
		Sub-Component	Letcher County, KY	Kentucky	United States
Substance		Substance Use Treatment Facilities per 100k	27.9	10.8	4.2
Use Disorder (SUD)		Average Distance to Nearest MAT Provider (miles)	6.8	8.6	18.4
Treatment		Mental Health Providers per 100k	81.4	292.8	340.5
		Average Distance to Nearest SSP (miles)	32.6	17.7	70.0
		NA or SMART Recovery Meetings per 100k	23.3	7.3	6.0
Continuum of SUD Support	2	Has there been a Drug-Free Communities Coalition grant recipient in the county in the past 3 years?	No	23.3%	19.4%
		Is there an adult drug court in the county?	Yes	48.3%	47.3%
		State SUD Policy Environment Score (0=lowest; 10=highest)	5.0	5.0	N/A
		Social Associations per 10k	4.2	10.2	10.6

Drug Overdose Mortality Table

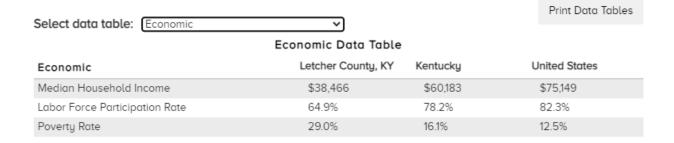




Socio-Demographic Table

Print Data Tables Select data table: Socio-Demographic Socio-Demographic Data Table United States Socio-Demographic Letcher County, KY Kentucky 58.9% White non-Hispanic 96.8% 83.2% Black non-Hispanic 0.7% 79% 12.1% Hispanic or Latino 0.9% 4.0% 18.6% Asian non-Hispanic 5.7% 0.2% 1.5% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic 0.0% 0.1% 0.2% American Indian/Alaska Native non-Hispanic 0.0% 0.1% 0.5% Aged <15 17.8% 18.6% 18.2% Aged 15-64 64.6% 65.2% 62.1% Aged 65+ 16.5% 20.1% 16.8% Completed High School 78.9% 88.2% 89.1% Completed College 13.1% 26.5% 34.3% Aged 3-4 and Enrolled in School 45.6% 33.3% 39.1%

Economic Table



Housing and Infrastructure Data Table

Select data table: Housing and Infrastructure

Housing and Infrastructure Data Table

Housing and Infrastructure

Letcher County, KY Kentucky

United States

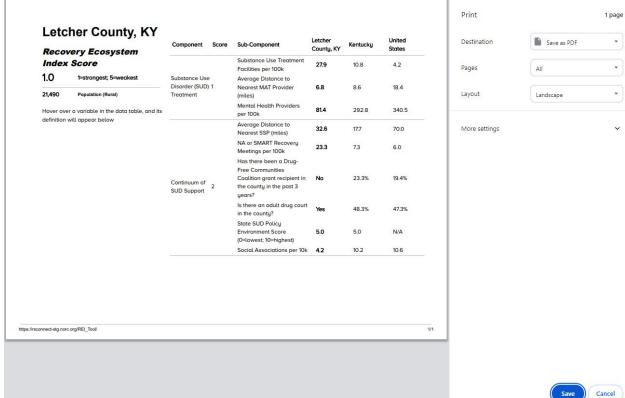
Housing and Infrastructure	Letcher County, KY	Kentucky	United States
One or More Vehicles	92.9%	93.3%	91.7%
Broadband Access	79.6%	85.6%	88.3%
Severe Housing Cost Burden	10.2%	10.5%	13.5%



Printable Data Tables

Users can print out data tables of the county fact sheet by clicking 'Print Data Tables' in the upper right corner. Note: Landscape orientation is recommended for printing.

CLOSE X Print Data Tables Letcher County, KY Select data table: Recovery Ecosystem Index Scores Component Score Sub-Component Letcher County, KY United States Recovery Ecosystem Index Score substance Use Treatment Facilities 27.9 10.8 4.2 1.0 1=strongest; 5=weakest Use Disorder Average Distance to Nearest MAT 6.8 (SUD) 8.6 18.4 Provider (miles) Treatment 21,490 Population (Rural) Mental Health Providers per 100k 340.5 Average Distance to Negrest SSP 17.7 70.0 Hover over a variable in the data table, and its (miles) definition will appear below NA or SMART Recovery Meetings per 23.3 7.3 6.0 Has there been a Drug-Free 23.3% 19.4% Continuum of in the county in the past 3 years? Is there an adult drug court in the 48.3% 47.3% county? State SUD Policy Environment Score 5.0 (0=lowest; 10=highest) Social Associations per 10k 10.2 10.6 Print Letcher County, KY Letcher United Save as PDF Destination Component Score Sub-Component Kentucky





Identify Local Data

The information and data in the tool can be supplemented with local data to further assess gaps and growth areas.

Some limitations should be considered when using the Recovery Ecosystem Index. First, some indicators are intended to serve as proxies for aspects of a recovery ecosystem but are imperfect, as obtaining valid data reported consistently at the county level is often difficult. Second, while the index is designed to be as comprehensive as possible based on available data, the index may not assess all aspects of a strong recovery ecosystem. Additionally, the data represent a range of time. Therefore, the data provides a general sense of the recovery ecosystem but will not capture more recent changes. The tool's information and data can be supplemented with local data to fill gaps, provide more granular information, assess ecosystem strengths, and further assess gaps and growth areas.

Assess Growth Areas and Gaps

Users can utilize the county-level fact sheets to assess current strengths and growth areas within both components of the Recovery Ecosystem Index, as well as compare current resources in their county with averages at the state and national levels.

County Fact Sheets

The county fact sheet landing page provides the overall Recovery Ecosystem Index and components' scores, indicator data, county population size, and county rural vs. urban designation.

Scrolling to the bottom of the page will reveal state policy data that comprise the State Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Policy Environment score. The SUD Policy Environment score is calculated by summing nine SUD policies' presence (1) or absence (0). The lowest score a state can receive is 0, and the highest is 9.



State Policies:

Note: Some policy information may be outdated. Please review the Methodology & Data Sources page for more information on the source for each policy and the year the data were most recently updated.

Policy	Kentucky
Does the law provide protection from probation or parole violations?	No
Does the jurisdiction have a drug overdose Good Samaritan Law?	Yes (Ky. Rev. Stat. Sec. 218A.133) (Ky. Rev. Stat. 218A.133(2))
Is reporting an overdose considered a mitigating factor in sentencing?	No
Does the state require commercial insurers to provide coverage for MOUD?	No
Does the state Medicaid plan include coverage for behavioral health supports for MOUD?	Yes (1115 Waiver)
Does the state have an approved Medicaid State Plan Amendment to facilitate the provision of MOUD?	No
Are licensed SUD programs required to facilitate access to MOUD programs?	Yes (908 Ky. Admin. Regs. 1:374) (902 Ky. Admin. Regs. 20:111)
Does state law allow for the operation of syringe service programs (SSPs)?	Yes (Ky. Rev. Stat. § 218A.500 Definitions for KRS 218A.500 and 218A.510; unlawful practices; penalties)
Does state law allow for the possession of syringes by SSP participants?	Yes (Ky. Rev. Stat. § 218A.500 Definitions for KRS 218A.500 and 218A.510; unlawful practices; penalties)

The index aims to measure the strength of rural county-level recovery ecosystems throughout the United States and provide data to support community planning, programming, and technical assistance to strengthen them. The Recovery Ecosystem Index consists of two components that impact the strength of a recovery ecosystem: SUD Treatment and Continuum of SUD Support.

The SUD Treatment component includes substance use treatment facilities per 100k, the average distance to the nearest MAT provider (miles), and mental health providers per 100k.

The Continuum of SUD Support component includes the average distance to the nearest SSP (miles), NA or SMART Recovery Meetings per 100k, the presence of a drug-free communities coalition, the presence of an adult drug court, the state SUD policy environment score, and social associations per 10k. Community leaders and members can leverage this data to determine priority areas for their county.

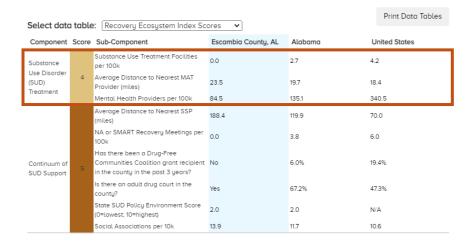
Substance Use Disorder Treatment Component

Escambia County, AL

Recovery Ecosystem Index Score

5.0 1=strongest; 5=weakest 36,755 Population (Rural)

Hover over a variable in the data table, and its definition will appear below





In this example, Escambia County, Alabama, which had a drug overdose rate of 43.7 deaths per 100,000 (compared to the national average of 26.9 deaths per 100,000), has a SUD Treatment component score of 4 (1 = strongest, 5 = weakest) and Continuum of SUD Support score of 5 (1 = strongest, 5 = weakest. Escambia County has no substance use treatment facilities and 84.5 mental health providers per 100,000, lower than the state (135.1 per 100,000) and the national rates (340.5 per 100,000). Using this data, substance use treatment and mental health providers could be identified as growth areas within the SUD Treatment component.

Continuum of Substance Use Disorder Support Component

Mah	nomen County, MN	Select data table: Recovery Ecosystem Index Scores ▼					Print Data Tables
Continuum of SUD Support Score		Component Score S		Sub-Component	Mahnomen County, MN	Minnesota	United States
4.0	1=strongest; 5=weakest	Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment	4	Substance Use Treatment Facilities per 100k	0.0	6.5	4.2
4	Recovery Ecosystem Index			Average Distance to Nearest MAT Provider (miles)	21.1	19.4	18.4
	Score			Mental Health Providers per 100k	N/A	335.3	340.5
5,389	Population (Rural)			Average Distance to Nearest SSP (miles)	55.5	54.1	70.0
Hover over a variable in the data table, and its definition will appear below				NA or SMART Recovery Meetings per 100k	0.0	5.7	6.0
		Continuum of SUD Support	4	Has there been a Drug-Free Communities Coalition grant recipient in the county in the past 3 years?	No	24.1%	19.4%
				Is there an adult drug court in the county?	Yes	48.3%	47.3%
				State SUD Policy Environment Score (0=lowest; 10=highest)	4.0	4.0	N/A
				Social Associations per 10k	7.4	12.4	10.6

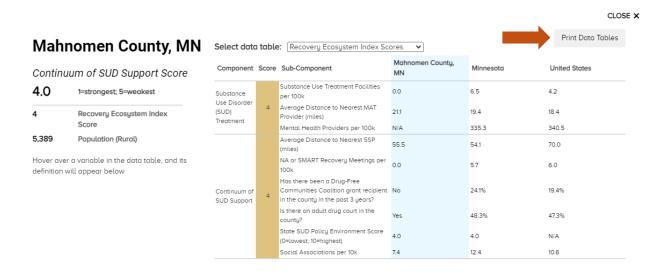
In this example, Mahnomen County, Minnesota which had a drug overdose rate of 88.0 deaths per 100,000 (compared to the national average of 26.9 deaths per 100,000), has a Continuum of SUD Support component score of 4 (1 = strongest, 5 = weakest). Mahnomen County does not have NA or SMART meetings. Additionally, there is no Drug-Free Communities Coalition, and the county has 7.4 social association per 10,000 population (compared to the state average of 12.4 per 10,000 and the national average of 10.6 per 100,000). Using this data, the number of NA or SMART meetings, the presence of the Drug-Free Communities Coalition, and the number of social association per capita could be identified as growth areas within the Continuum of SUD Support component.



Communicate Needs to Policymakers

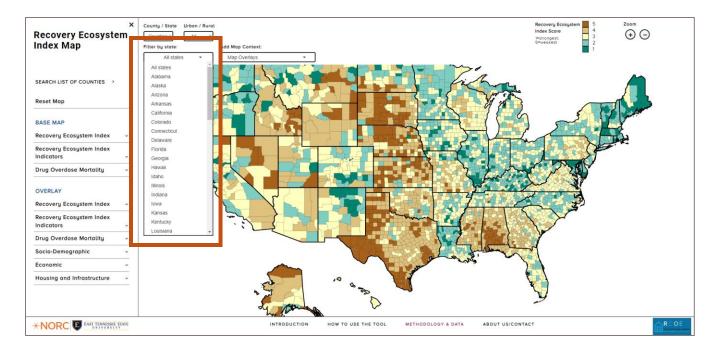
The data tables available through the county fact sheets can be used as printed sheets to hand to policymakers. Users can also utilize the interactive map to visually show how their county compares to others within the state.

Users can print out the county fact sheet's data tables by clicking 'Print Data Tables' in the upper right corner.

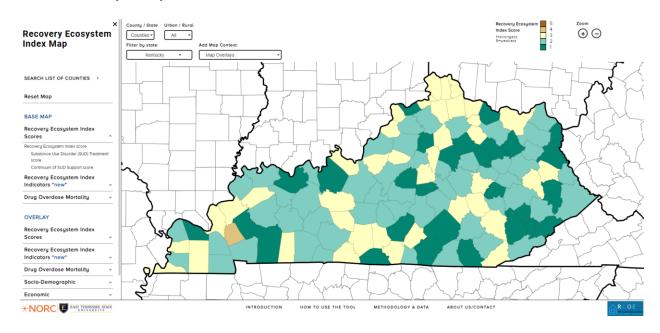


Users can filter for the correct state in the 'Filter by state' drop-down menu to visually compare their county with others in the state.



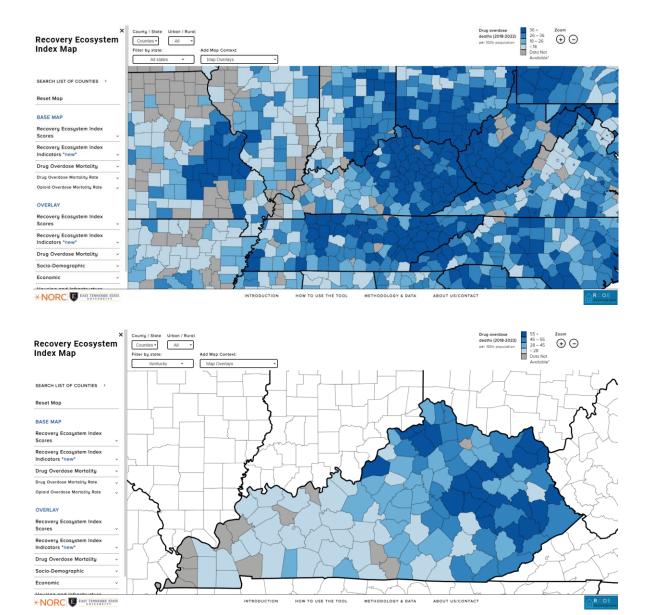


Zoom into the state using the Zoom feature in the upper right corner, next to the map legend. Now, users can show how their county compares to other counties in the state. Below is a map of the Recovery Ecosystem Index score.



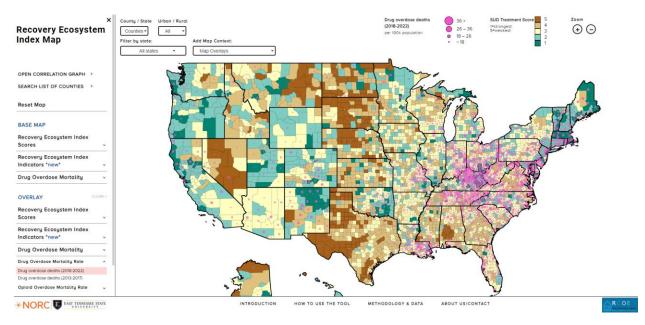


Users can choose the Recovery Ecosystem Index score, individual Recovery Ecosystem Index indicators, or drug overdose mortality rates in the left navigation column as the map's base layer. The two Recovery Ecosystem Index components, SUD Treatment and Continuum of SUD Support, consist of nine indicators. Both component scores and individual indicator data can also be used as a base map. Drug overdose mortality includes both drug and opioid overdose mortality rates for 2013-2027 and 2018-2022. When a continuous variable, such as drug overdose mortality, is selected for the base map for a single state, the quartiles will recalculate, showing the distribution of rates within the state. For example, in the example below, first, we show the drug overdose mortality rates in Kentucky, when compared to the rest of the nation. Next, we show the distribution of drug overdose mortality rates within Kentucky.



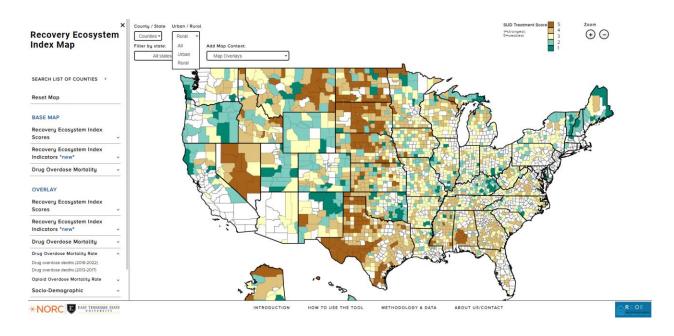


Overlay data options are available below the base map options in the left navigation corner. In addition to the Recovery Ecosystem Index score, components scores, individual indicators, and drug overdose mortality rates, socio-demographic, economic, and housing and infrastructure data are provided. This feature allows you to layer secondary data over the base map. For example, the SUD Treatment base map could be overlayed with the opioid overdose mortality or poverty rates. The tool illustrates how a given measure relates to the base-layer data by showing the secondary data as translucent circles of varying sizes.



To toggle between county and state-level data, click the drop-down box below "County / State". To toggle between urban and rural designated counties, click the drop-down box below "Urban / Rural". This tool uses HRSA definitions of urban/rural. Lastly, you can filter the map to show data for your state by clicking the drop-down box below "Filter by state:". For example, only the rural designated counties are highlighted in the map below.





Additional map context in include the geolocations of Native American Reservations, the outline of persistent poverty counties, the location of major highways, and Federally Defined Regions (e.g., Appalachia, Delta, and the U.S.-Mexico border region). An example of the location of Native American Reservations is shown below.

