

Fentress County Priorities

In order to ensure that all health problems were addressed in the same manner, the council utilized a process termed “Score and Rank”. This process is an objective, reasonable and easy to use procedure that determines the priority issues. Each health and social concern is assigned a rank based on the size and the seriousness of the problem in conjunction with the knowledge about the effectiveness of potentially available interventions. The Score and Rank Process is outlined below:

Score and Rank Process

Consider the following:

Size: This reflects the percentage of the local population affected by the problem.

The largest percentage will be ranked 1.

The smallest percentage will be ranked 13.

Seriousness: The most serious problem will be ranked 1.

The least serious problem will be ranked 13.

Keep in mind:

- What is the emergent nature of the health problem? Is there an urgency to intervene? Is their public concern? Is the problem a health problem?
- What is the severity of the problem? Does the problem have a high death rate? Does the problem cause premature morbidity or mortality?
- Is there actual or potential economic loss associated with the health problems? Does the health problem cause long term illness? Will the community have to bear the economic burden?
- What is the potential or actual impact on others in the community?

STEP 1: Assign a rank for size.

1 being the highest rank (the largest percentage)

13 being the lowest rank (the smallest percentage)

Assign a rank for seriousness.

1 being the most serious

13 being the least serious

STEP 2: Add size and seriousness

STEP 3: The final rank will be determined by assessing the totals. The lowest total will have a final rank of 1 and the highest total will have a final rank of 13.