ew Hampshire dropped from healthiest state in the nation in 2000 to second healthiest in 2001 according to UnitedHealth Foundation's State Health Ranking 2001 Edition. The Granite State ranked first among the following categories: for lowest violent crime rate with 97 offenses per 100,000 population; strong prenatal care with 88 percent of pregnant women receiving adequate care; and a low infant mortality rate with 4.8 deaths per 1,000 live births.

On the negative side, the prevalence of smoking among residents 18 and older increased from 22.3 percent of the population in 2000 to 25.3 percent in 2001, according to UnitedHealth Foundation. Also, the state's support for

public health care<sup>1</sup> dropped from first place to fifth over-the-year and the number of limited activity days<sup>2</sup> increased from 2.8 to 3.1 days.

Elisabeth Picard

- State Health Ranking 2001
- <sup>1</sup> To calculate a state's support for public healthcare, total state and local expenditures for public welfare, health, and hospitals are divided by the total general expenditures of state and local units to calculate a percentage. That percentage is then divided by the percentage of the state's population with an annual household income below \$15,000.
- <sup>2</sup> Limited activity days are defined by United-Health Foundation as the average number of days in the past 30 days that a person could not perform work or household tasks due to physical or mental illness.