

Data Available for Community Health Assessments

Eleanor Howell, MS

Manager, Data Dissemination Unit

State Center for Health Statistics

Accreditation Standards

1.1.b Reflect the demographic profile of the population

1.1.c Describe socioeconomic, educational & environment factors that affect health

1.1.d Assemble/analyze secondary data to describe community health status

1.1.e Collect/analyze primary data to describe community health status

Accreditation Standards

- 1.1.f Compile/analyze trend data to describe changes in community health status and factors affecting health
- 1.1.g Use scientific methods for collecting and analyzing data
- 1.1.h Identify population groups at risk
- 1.1.j Compare selected local data with data from other jurisdictions

Primary Data

- Collected by the Community Health Assessment Team
- Allow at least three to five months for data collection and analysis
- Provides the community's voice
- Needs to represent the entire county

Community Health Opinion Survey

- Required if not conducting Small Group Discussions
- Sample survey in English and Spanish, along with Epi Info analysis program, available from the CHA Resources webpage

Small-Group Discussions

- Required if not conducting Community Health Opinion Survey
- Includes
 - Listening Sessions
 - Focus Groups
- All constituencies must be represented
- Best suited to collect qualitative data

Optional Primary Data

- Key Informant Interviews
 - Structured conversations with people who have specialized knowledge
- Asset Mapping
 - Help identify strengths and can establish link between health needs and interventions or solutions

Secondary Data

- Data collected by other sources
- State Center for Health Statistics
 - County Health Data Book
 - HealthStats
 - Additional publications
- Resource Guide for Community Health Assessment in North Carolina (Appendix H)

Local Secondary Data

- Provide additional data on the county
- Data may be unique to the county
- Collect identifying information on data source so that they can be credited, contacted for follow-up if needed, and thanked

County Health Data Book

- Updated February 2012
- Population
- Pregnancy and Live Births
- Mortality
- Morbidity

HealthStats

- Website released January 2012
- Replaces NC-CATCH
- Phase I – Indicator Reports
 - Healthy North Carolina 2020 objectives
 - Upcoming: Leading Causes of Death and County Health Data Book
- Phase II – Query System

Websites

- County Health Data Book

<http://www.schs.state.nc.us/SCHS/data/databook/>

- HealthStats

<http://healthstats.publichealth.nc.gov>

- American FactFinder

<http://factfinder2.census.gov>

- Log Into North Carolina

<http://linc.state.nc.us/>

- CHA Guidebook

<http://www.healthycarolinians.org/assessment/resources/survey.aspx>