

Community Health Assessment 2010-2013

Community health assessment is a regulatory requirement of local health departments and a fundamental tool of public health practice. Community health assessment is the on-going and systematic process of examining the health status of a population for the purposes of:

- determining the general and disease-specific health of the community,
- assessing the underlying causes of poor health in the community,
- evaluating the effectiveness of program initiatives to maintain or improve health status and
- in planning the utilization of resources to address health needs.

Local health departments analyze the health status of residents within their jurisdiction with regard to morbidity, mortality, maternal and child health, and other parameters as reasonable and appropriate. This analysis also includes a description of the demographic characteristics of the locality, with special attention to those demographic parameters determined to be predictive of increased risk of excessive morbidity and mortality to the extent that such data is readily available.

Community health assessment is one of the five core services funded under the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Article 6 program with local health departments (LHD) being required to develop a Community Health Assessment (CHA) document every four years.

The intent of the documentation of the 2010-2013 Community Health Assessment of Lewis County is to be a resource, useful in the support of the vital practice of community health assessment in Lewis County. It is a practice that includes the ongoing collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data, collaboration and coalition building in Lewis County, with community and individual involvement and motivation. These processes are to be utilized with other methods of assessment, collectively and continually by key stakeholders, policy makers and advocates in working toward the common goal of improving the health of the people of Lewis County.

In addition, the CHA provides Lewis County Public Health and its health care planning partners with the opportunity to engage and interact with key community leaders, organizations and interested residents about local health priorities and health care concerns. The sharing and analysis of findings with key stakeholders enables and mobilizes community members to work collaboratively towards building healthier communities and forms the basis for the deliberate improvement, over time, of health care in Lewis County and its communities.

Preliminary Data and Areas of Concern

- Our population is experiencing the effects of the current economic recession. Lewis County school districts are ranked as having the 8th highest percentage of children in grades K-6 receiving free or reduced lunch. The number of households receiving food stamps has significantly increased within the last 2 years from 959 households in June of 2007 to 1423 households in June of 2009. That is a 48% increase.

- Our age groupings are undergoing changes. The age group 65 and over, our smallest age grouping, is increasing and is projected to be almost 21% of the total population by 2025. The age group 20-64, our largest age grouping, is projected to decrease over the next several years to end up at about 53% of the total population in 2025.
- Natality information can be a reflection on the present and future health of our families and our community. The birth rate for Lewis County is trending downward. 97% of pregnant women received prenatal care, but only about 76% of those women received prenatal care in the first trimester. Lewis County has the highest comparative increase in low birth weight babies, the highest infant death rate and the highest neonatal death rate in all of NYS, including NYC.
- Over the last decade, the leading causes of death in Lewis County have been heart disease, cancer, accidents, chronic lower respiratory disease, cerebrovascular disease, diabetes, cirrhosis of the liver and pneumonia.
- Lewis County has the highest incidence of colorectal cancer in males, kidney and renal cancer in males, thyroid cancer in females, leukemia, and prostate cancer.
- Lewis County was the 9th highest county in NYS for age adjusted death rates in total accidents. There were 22 motor vehicle related deaths in 2007, over three times the NYS rate.
- The rate of residents diagnosed with diabetes is increasing every year.
- Lewis County has the highest rates of diarrheal infectious diseases in NYS. Campylobacteriosis, cryptosporidiosis, giardiasis and salmonellosis are the common infections and our rates far exceed those in other counties.
- 73% of Lewis County residents report that they are overweight or obese.

Community Report Card

Lewis County

Indicator	Year	Lewis County	Year 2010 Goal	Year	Lewis County
Infant Mortality Rate (Rate per 1,000 live births)	2000-2002	9.1	4.5	2007	13.6
Adolescent Pregnancy Rate for teens (per 1000 females 15-17 years)	2000	13.5	NYS Rate 35.1 (2007)	2007	31.5
Breast Cancer Deaths (Age adjusted rate per 100,000 female population)	2000-2002	22.1	22.2	2002-2006	20.6

Indicator	Year	Lewis County	Year 2010 Goal	Year	Lewis County
Cerebrovascular Deaths (Age adjusted rate per 100,000 population)	2000-2002	50.2	NYS Rate 38.4 (2007)	2007	23.9
Colorectal Cancer Deaths (Age adjusted rate per 100,000 population)	2000-2002	32.3	13.9	2002-2006	21.0
Lung Cancer Deaths (Age adjusted rate per 100,000 population)	2000-2002	44.8	40.8	2002-2006	51.2
Coronary Hearth Disease Deaths (Age adjusted rate per 100,000 population)	2000-2002	170.5	166.0	2007	190.6
Deaths from Diabetes (per 100,000 population)	2000-2002	25.8	45.0	2005-2007	16.7
CLRD Deaths (includes COPD) (per 100,000 population)	2000-2002	59.0	NYS Rate 29.7 (2007)	2007	35.8
Unintentional Injury Deaths (Age adjusted rate per 100,000 population)	2000-2002	39.7	17.5	2005-2007	43.4
Oropharyngeal cancer deaths (Rate per 100,000 population)	2000-2002	12.2	2.6	2002-2006	6.0
Pertusis incidence per 100,000 population	2000-2002	39.6	NYS Rate 2.0	2007	0.0
Children ages 1-6 years with blood lead levels \geq 10ug/dl	2002 2003	23 13	0 0	2008	3.0
Incidence of AIDS (Per 100,000 population)	2000-2002	3.7	1.0	2007	0.0

Indicator	Year	Lewis County	Year 2010 Goal	Year	Lewis County
Percent of 3 rd grade children who have one or more cavities	2002-2004	59.6	42.0	-	Data unavailable
Pneumonia hospital rate per 10,000 population, age 0-4 years	2000-2002	66.2	NYS Rate 45.3 (2005-2007)	2005-2007	55.4
Children admissions for asthma (Rate per 10,000 population, age 0-4)	2000-2002	31.0	NYS Rate 58.8 (2005-2007)	2005-2007	11.6
Percent of adults overweight or obese (BMI 25+)	2000-2002	67.7	56.7	2005-2007	67.7
Percent of adults aged 18+ indicating moderate exercise defined as 30 minutes at least 5-6 times per week	2000-2002	13.7	30.0		
Percent of adults who smoke cigarettes	2003	19.0	12.0	2005-2007	22.2