Community Health Outlook Reports: Small Area Analysis to Support Public Health Action

Access Individual Community Snapshots

The Community Health Outlook Reports summarize 35 health-related indicators for 199 communities across New Hampshire. The chosen indicators represent community characteristics, risk factors, health behaviors, and outcomes, thus reflecting a suite of conditions that impact health. Data are summarized to highlight geographic, demographic, and time trends.

Data are often displayed in a chart like the one above. A continuum across all Communities or Regions within NH is displayed, with the lowest and the highest values shown to highlight the range, as well as comparison values for the county and state.

Focus on Environmental Health Data

Environmental health is a key part of public health. It focuses on the connections between people and the environment and strives to create healthy communities. Health is based on the complex interaction of several factors related to genes, behavior, and the environment. Environmental factors include features in the natural, built, or social environment such as air quality, access to transportation, and poverty status. Social determinants of health are defined as the specific conditions within the social environment where people live, learn, work, and play. Both environmental and social factors have a major impact on health risks, health behaviors, and health outcomes.

Identify Areas for Public Health Action

The Community Health Outlooks enable users to explore trends in risks, behaviors, and health outcomes by community. Understanding how both risk factors and health outcomes vary across the state can help identify high-risk areas and target populations. Informed with high-quality and high-resolution data, the public health system can work collectively to improve public health while advancing health equity initiatives. This ensures all people have the opportunity to reach their full health potential.

Social Determinants of Health are important to consider in any public health intervention. Here the population living in poverty is presented.

Access Data and Reports

Download summary data tables showing communities with highest and lowest rates for all indicators. For a complete summary, see the table with rates for all communities, available by Public Health Network, county, and for the cities of Manchester and Nashua.

The data tables include:
- a cross walk linking towns to communities to regions;
- a table of all demographic and socioeconomic indicators with the lowest/highest rates for each indicator;
- the rate of each demographic and socioeconomic indicator for each Community;
- a table of all health outcome indicators with the lowest/highest rates for each indicator;
- a table of health outcome indicators that are available at the Community Level for each Community; and
- a table of health outcome indicators that are available at the Region Level for each Region.

Visit the NH Health WISDOM data portal at: wisdom.dhhs.nh.gov
Explore Data at Multiple Scales

New Hampshire has 10 counties, 13 cities, 221 towns, and 25 unincorporated places. The community level geography used in these reports is a single town where possible. However, there are some towns in NH where the population is too small to support reliable health outcome estimates at the town level. For towns where the population is less than 4,000 people, towns were grouped together into a community based on similar demographic and socioeconomic factors. Concord, Manchester, and Nashua are the three largest cities in NH and were divided into communities.

Communities were than grouped into regions with a minimum population of 20,000 people. Regions are used to present data for more rare outcomes such as heart attack mortality.

Present Geographic Data

The Community Health Outlook Atlas present data more geographically. Health outcomes and social determinants of health data are mapped at the community, regional, county, and Public Health Network scale to support partners working on initiatives such as Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIP) and Community Health Assessments (CHA).

Presenting core health outcomes at different geographical scales enables targeted interventions. The map above shows which towns in the Upper Valley Regional Public Health Network report a higher rate of heart attack mortality.