



Project Newsletter

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Project Update

- **Now available**—2009 birth, death and behavioral risk factor surveillance survey data!
- The comprehensive data needs assessment is complete. The assessment encompassed all Iowa Department of Public Health programs, current and targeted future users of the warehouse. The outcomes of the assessment were used to develop a business plan for the next phase of the warehouse and Environmental Public Health Tracking project—writing business requirements. Business requirements will detail modifications to be made to the warehouse over the next year. To view the department data needs assessment summary report, go to: www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/data_warehouse.asp.

Project Plans

- The statewide inpatient discharge data for 2009 will be loaded in the coming weeks with the county health snapshots for 2009. When accessing the health snapshots, be sure to review the *County Health Snapshot definitions, purpose, disclaimers, and limitations* document.

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Iowa Department of Public Health Data Needs Assessment- Results

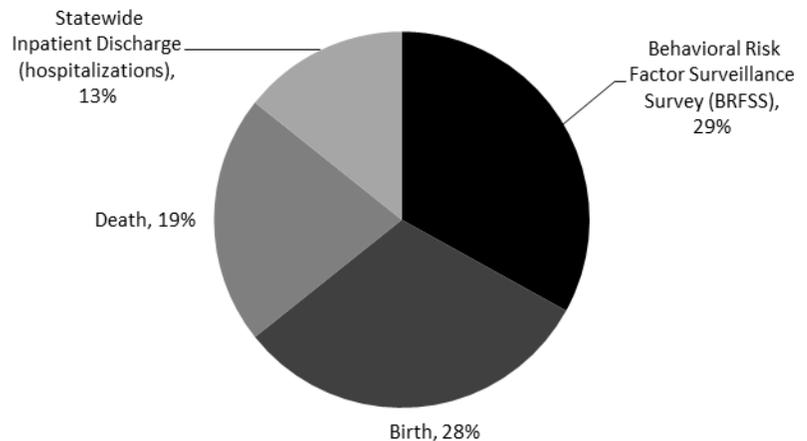
The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) data needs assessment was conducted over a 10-week period in the fall of 2011. All 92 programs in the department responded to the requests for assessment data collected through surveys and spreadsheets. The data needs assessment was conducted to establish a baseline for data use, management and needs throughout the department. These baseline data have numerous purposes for use. Additionally, 126 existing and targeted future users responded to a survey that evaluated how users are utilizing the warehouse and what functionalities would be helpful.

Existing users access behavioral risk factor surveillance and birth data more than any other dataset. The most frequently used non-statistical feature of the warehouse is the county health snapshot. A number of supportive documents, such as the warehouse training materials have been accessed by about one in every ten users.

More than half of the respondents of the existing/future user survey were from local public health agencies. Persons working in health care or state government represented 16 and 18 percent of respondents, respectively.

The top reasons respondents gave for the use of data in the warehouse were centered on assessing community health. Approximately 20 percent of users sought data for community health needs assessments and in developing health improvement plans. Other uses included exploring specific health issues, responding to external requests for data and to form health indicators.

During 2012, the department will be working to modify the warehouse to sustain the useful features and expand to include functions and content identified in the assessment. For questions on the assessment and its outcomes and uses, contact Meg Harris at Meghan.harris@idph.iowa.gov.



Which non-statistical features have you ever accessed in the Data Warehouse?	n	Percent
County health snapshot	39	31%
Data Warehouse Training Materials	18	14%
Epi Manual	12	10%
Metadata	12	10%
Foodborne Outbreak Investigation Manual	11	9%
Environmental Health Toolkit	10	8%
Glossary	9	7%
Toxicology Manual	3	2%
Intro to ArcGIS for IDPH	2	2%
Using Adobe Acrobat to Create Custom Forms	1	1%
ATR Provider Resources	1	1%

Data Warehouse Redesign and Expansion

The Data Warehouse (DWH) and Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) teams have been working extensively over the past year to develop plans for expanding and redesigning the DWH. Over the next few months, new environmental health data will be staged internally. After these data are set-up in an acceptable form inside the department, IDPH intends to start work with a contractor to modify the DWH. Content areas, or subject areas, being added to the warehouse include the following:

- Air quality
- Drinking water
- Birth defects
- Reproductive health outcomes
- Acute myocardial infarction
- Asthma
- Cancer
- Carbon monoxide poisoning
- Child lead poisoning

Some of the data used to develop these content areas are already in the warehouse. Additional datasets will originate from external partners such as the Iowa Cancer Registry and the Department of Natural Resources.

The long-term plan in revising the warehouse is to improve access to data through two entry points- 1) a public web portal, and 2) a secure portal (similar to the existing secure site hosted on SharePoint). Data will be much easier to interact with, for all users. Some of the intended features of these public and secure portals are the following:

- Use of nationally-consistent data measures displayed in other states with EPHT programs
- County health snapshots and new snapshots for environmental health and chronic disease indicators
- Tools to aid with display and filtering of data
- Enhanced exporting and viewing options for data

Updates on this project will be provided through this newsletter, which will now be published monthly. Please also watch the DWH and EPHT websites for information:

http://www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/data_warehouse.asp

<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/eh/epht.asp>

Data Warehouse Repository

The Data Warehouse will be introducing new data sets in the IDPH Data Repository. These data sets are intended to meet some needs expressed in the Data Warehouse assessment completed earlier this fall. Based on the information provided, these datasets have been cataloged to make them more accessible to everyone within the Iowa Department of Public Health as well as the public. They come from national sources, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Census Bureau, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This data will be available on individual county levels within Iowa, at the state level and the national level and will cover nine major areas. The major areas covered include:

- Health Care Utilization
- Health Disparities
- Health Insurance
- Education
- Socioeconomic
- Acute Disease Incidence and Prevention
- Chronic Disease Incidence and Prevention
- Demographic
- Mortality data

In addition to the data sets, there will be links conveniently provided for access to more information on the major areas listed above.

Users may submit datasets for the repository to Meg Harris at Meghan.harris@idph.iowa.gov.

Birth report

The National Vital Statistics Report on Preliminary Birth Data for 2010 was released this November by the National Center for Health Statistics and it showed historic results. Overall birth rate trends decreased across all different age groups and ethnicities. The birth rate declined again this year, down by 3% from 2009. Both the general fertility rate and total fertility rate also declined by 3% from 2009 to 64.1 and 1,932 per 1,000 births respectively. For the general fertility rate this is the lowest rate since the late 1990s. Birthrate among teenagers also declined. It dropped 9% to 34.4 per 1,000 births. This is the lowest level ever reported in the U.S. and is down from 44% in 1991. The only age group to have an increase in birth rate was women age 40-44 years. It increased by 2% from 2009.