

Using Data and Statistics

By understanding and using data and statistics, you will become well informed about the state of health in the county and learn the most recent health information and activities pertinent to your specific service planning area. To get you started on this path, we have included links highlighting sources of data to help you find health reports organized by gender, race/ethnicity, service planning areas, zip codes, socioeconomic categories, health topics, as well as overall health status reports for Los Angeles County at large. This information may contain data to help you select the types of health services that are most needed and appropriate for the populations you wish to serve.

Los Angeles County Department of Health Services

<http://www.ladhs.org/>

The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services website houses a variety of resources that may be useful for planning a health fair or other health outreach activity. The health department may serve as your primary source of information on a variety of health topics. Specifically, their epidemiology section includes vital statistics, data reports, a geographical mapping section, health districts and supervisorial districts and more. You will also find community programs focused on specific health topics to keep in mind as a potential resource for people in your target area(s). You will also find community programs focused on specific health topics to facilitate partnerships or to keep in mind as a potential resource for people in your target area(s).

California Health Interview Survey, (CHIS)

<http://www.chis.ucla.edu/>

The CHIS website contains a variety of ways that you can research your health focus area, population group or service planning area(s) of interest. The website includes a search engine (askCHIS 2.0) which allows you to customize your inquiry and receive results in tabular and graphical formats. Once you enter the CHIS website and become a registered user (registration is free), you may obtain data reports by choosing among a list of publications. If you are interested in learning about the health status and needs of a specific racial/ethnic group or want to learn how a specific health issue affects people in a particular geographic area, gender or age group, you may input this information and receive reports using these variables. The website is user-friendly and includes step-by-step procedures to assist you with your research process.

United Way of Greater Los Angeles

http://www.unitedwayla.org/pages/rpts_resource/rpts_resource.html

The research and reports unit of United Way Los Angeles is a major resource for obtaining reports on the health of populations in Los Angeles County. By accessing the research and reports section of their website you may obtain community reports, including research on service planning areas, demographic profiles, racial/ethnic profiles, and an archive of data/reports on a multitude of health topics and societal issues.

Los Angeles Children's Planning Council

<http://www.childpc.org/>

The Children's Planning Council (CPC) is a collaborative network of community organizations, government agencies, health providers, organizations, school administrators, and community representatives that convene to plan and make decisions that may improve health and education outcomes for children and families. On their website you will find links to each SPA Council website. Each SPA Council link includes population profiles, health reports, SPA workplans, council meeting minutes, latest news briefs, and a calendar of events. By clicking on the "Data" icon, you will find demographic population profiles and estimates, zip code profiles, and maps illustrating statistics for a variety of health indicators. Each indicator contains information which is categorized by demographics, good health, safety & survival, and economic well-being for each Service Planning Area.

Health Data Resource Inventory Search Page

www.LAPublicHealth.org/phcommon/public/hdi/index.cfm

The Health Data Resource Inventory catalogues public health data reports available for Los Angeles County. To search this database you may select from a list of health topics or health indicators and narrow your search by geographic area, health district, service planning area, zip code, state, supervisorial district, or by census tract.

Los Angeles County Health Survey

<http://www.lapublichealth.org/ha/survey/hasurveyintro.htm>

The Los Angeles County Health Survey is a telephone-operated survey that supplies information about the health of the people of Los Angeles County. The survey assesses the health-related disparities of the population, for program planning and evaluation as well as policy advancement. The health survey assesses large demographic subgroups in different geographic regions of Los Angeles County by SPA and Health Districts. On the website there are links to reports on Los Angeles County Health, information about the Los Angeles County Health Survey, new updates, journal publications, and health assessment jobs. By clicking on the home icon and scrolling to the bottom of the page there is a link that directs you to programs and information about all the SPAs and pertinent health issues such as public health, adolescent and child care and various medical hospitals and centers in Los Angeles. Each of these programs supply detailed information about their program by providing its own webpage with relevant links.

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

<http://www.dmh.co.la.ca.us/>

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) advances and organizes mental health services throughout Los Angeles County. The department's basic services involve case management, inpatient care, outpatient services (including crisis intervention/emergency response), and day treatment programs through County-operated mental health clinics and hospitals. The DMH examines the clinical and financial performance of all service providers. On their website are links for Community Connection, Department of Children and Family Services, LA-County Childcare Information and Resources, Department of Child Support Services, Department of Community and Senior Services, Department of Public Social Services, Training and Cultural Competency, etc. The aforementioned links provide further information by SPA as well as community and national resources and recent updates.

Reducing Health Disparities in Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Populations

<http://erc.msh.org/aapi/index.html>

Developed by the Organization of Management Sciences for Health, this website is designed to improve clinical outcomes among AAPI populations by providing resources on their cultures and beliefs, disease prevalence rates, and demographics. Oftentimes, the style of communication is significant to correctly diagnose an AAPI patient. This web page provides not only techniques to take a patient's history, but also suggestions to insure that AAPI patients understand and are motivated to follow the treatment plan. In addition, suggestions are provided on when and how to use interpreters.

Center for Health Statistics, Office of Health Information and Research

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/hisp/chs/OHIR/reports/>

The Center for Health Statistics offers reports on the health status and disease prevalence of Californians. Operated under the California Department of Health Services, the website offers health reports ranging from heart disease to cancer prevalence. The data in this report are significant when planning health fairs because one should understand the health status of people in California in order to properly provide screening services at local communities.

California Department of Health Services, Health Publications Finder

<http://www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/healthpubfinder/>

The Health Publications Finder is under the California Department of Health Services. This site offers access to health publications in print and electronic formats. It allows the user to search specifically for scientific/ professional publications or health education materials and also by keyword. The site also provides a detailed search function that allows the user to find sources by publication title, type, language, specific audience group, reading level, and program. This website also provides links to several forms they utilize such as AIDS Medi-Cal waiver application. The main website that houses this page provides other health warnings and up-to-date information.

California Department of Health Services (CDHS) Multicultural Health Disparities

<http://www.cphn.org/pdfs/Multicultural%20Health%20Disparities%20Report.pdf>

The report on this website examines six major areas, based on data compiled from various sources in California between 1990 and 1999, in which persons of different racial and ethnic backgrounds experience serious disparities in health access and outcomes. These areas include infant mortality, cancer screening and management, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV infection/AIDS and immunization. This report offers extensive information in tabular/graph and bullet point formats about statistics covering topics ranging from diabetes prevalence estimates and stroke deaths to AIDS incidence. There are also many links to relevant websites, mostly created by the CDHS and other California governmental agencies, which provide more detailed background information on topics addressed on this website. Most of these sites also offer their own statistics and data in a similar format to that used in this report. Most of the helpful data is distilled into two final tables which summarize the health disparities

California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development Health Information Division

<http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/hqad/clinics/clinicsutil.htm>

The Statewide Health Planning and Development office has reports on primary care services provided in Los Angeles County. These reports will offer primary care diagnoses which will give you an indication of the major health needs of people who receive service in the clinic areas. Also, the report of primary care clinic data illustrates languages spoken by staff members in various clinics throughout the county. This information will enable you to link people with health services from providers and medical staff who may speak their languages. Additionally, the primary and specialty care clinic listings highlighted on the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development's webpage, may be useful in learning which clinics and health services are available to people who attend your health fair. Therefore, you can refer select individuals to clinics nearest to their homes that offer the specific types of ongoing health services they need as determined by the findings from health assessments or preventive screening outcomes obtained at your health fair.

Service Planning Area Zip Code Data

http://www.unitedwayla.org/pages/rpts_resource/state_spos.html

The United Way of Los Angeles has a zip code databook for each individual SPA and a combined SPA ZIP Code resource. These contain extensive zip code and SPA-based data on race, age, languages, poverty income, education, birth characteristics, prenatal care, birth weights by race and age, crime, public assistance, death by age and sex, leading causes of death by cause, single parent household data, and housing ownership status.

Key Indicators of Health by SPA

<http://lapublichealth.org/ha/index.htm> (search Reports, Other reports)

This publication includes data for over 60 different health indicators for Los Angeles County and each Service Planning Area. It also categorizes data for each health indicator by health behaviors, conditions of the social and physical environment, health status, health care access, health outcomes by all SPAs. References of data sources are included so that you can refer to them for additional information on your service planning area of interest.

California Cancer Facts and Figures, 2006

<http://www.ccrca.org/PDF/ACS2006.pdf>

The American Cancer Society (ACS) is the nationwide community-based health organization dedicated to preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy, and service. The data in California Cancer Facts and Figures demonstrate areas of cancer prevention, detection, treatment, and/or care that are succeeding. The report also points out areas and populations where special attention is needed, and can help focus further efforts in research, education, service and advocacy.

The State of Health Insurance in California, Findings from CHIS 2003

http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/pubs/files/SHIC03_RT_081505.pdf

This report, based on data from the 2003 and 2001 California Health Interview Surveys (CHIS), examines health insurance coverage, and the sources and consequences of periods of uninsurance for the nonelderly population in California. Using the most recent data available, this report paints an overall picture of health insurance and uninsurance in California and the changes experienced between 2001 and 2003; examines changes in employer-based insurance in detail; profiles Medi-Cal and Healthy Families enrollees and their families, as well as children who are uninsured but eligible for coverage in these programs; examines the consequences of being uninsured versus having coverage as it relates to access to care and getting necessary care; and discusses the advantages and disadvantages of key public policy options to extend coverage to California's 6.6 million uninsured residents.

Cancer Incidence and Mortality in CA, 2004

http://www.usc.edu/schools/medicine/departments/preventive_medicine/divisions/epidemiology/research/csp/assets/pdf/FinalCCRMonoGraph12102004.pdf

This volume provides physicians, researchers, public health officials and the public with high quality data documenting the trends of many different types of cancer in California over the last 14 years. These data illustrate considerable differences in cancer incidence between men and women and among various racial/ethnic groups. These differences not only identify the types of persons at greater risk of each cancer but also offer intriguing clues that may lead to better understanding and prevention of cancer. The CCR data serve as a resource to generate hypotheses regarding specific cancer sites or histologic subtypes, monitor descriptive trends and patterns of cancer incidence, and identify demographic subgroups at high risk of cancer. A high priority is always placed on exploring demographic patterns and trends in cancer incidence among the racially and ethnically diverse population of California.

An Epidemiologic Profile of HIV and AIDS in LA County, 2004

http://lapublichealth.org/wwwfiles/ph/hae/hiv/2004_EpiProfile.PDF

This HIV Epidemiologic Profile provides updated information about HIV and AIDS in Los Angeles County. The Profile focuses predominantly on the social and demographic groups most affected by HIV and AIDS, as well as those behaviors that can transmit HIV. This Profile contains updated epidemiologic information on HIV and AIDS in Los Angeles County (LAC). The Profile focuses on behavioral risk groups (BRGs) and other targeted groups identified by both the HIV Prevention Planning Committee (PPC) as well as the Commission on HIV/AIDS Health Services (CHHS). The Profile also includes a section on patterns of care service utilization. Finally, the Profile emphasizes the presentation of epidemic information by Service Planning Area (SPA) to help planners and policy-makers effectively address regional needs.

Diabetes in California, Findings from CHIS 2001

http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/pubs/files/UCLA_Diabetes_Rpt_Final_R2.pdf

This report examines diabetes in California based on data from the 2001 California Health Interview Survey (CHIS). The sample was designed to provide statewide estimates for California's overall population, its major racial and ethnic groups, and a number of smaller ethnic groups. The report includes an introduction on diabetes in California, prevalence of diabetes, access to Medical Care, Health Insurance Coverage, information on diabetes Care and Management, and how to identify "At Risk" Populations.

ADDITIONAL WAYS OF RESEARCHING THE SPECIFIC HEALTH NEEDS OF PEOPLE IN EACH SERVICE PLANNING AREA

Service Planning Area Health Educators

Each SPA has a health educator who is familiar with the health needs, programs, and services for people in their designated region. The SPA health educator may reveal to you the most pressing and current health needs of the people in their service planning area. A health educator may also be able to refer you to planning committees for each service planning area or connect your organization with people who work closely with the community where you want to have your health fair. The SPA health educator may also refer you to organizations that offer health services that may compliment the types of health education and preventive screening programs that your organization will offer at your health fair. You should refer to the department of health services' website to find out how to contact the current health educator for a particular service planning area.

Service Planning Area Resource Council Meetings

If you want to know current, first-hand information on the health needs for a particular Service Planning Area, you may want to review the online meeting minutes of each SPA resource council meeting. In most Service Planning Areas, resource council meetings are held to discuss health and social service needs of the individual SPA. These meetings are convened by SPA administrators and are open to the public. Refer to the Children's Planning Council website to review council meeting minutes or to find out when these meetings are convened in the service planning area in which you intend to have your health fair. The SPA educator of your region of interest may also help you find a schedule of council meetings.