

2011

Franklin County

Community Health Assessment Executive Summary

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What is a Community Health Assessment?

Community health assessment provides the basis for improving and supporting the health of people in a community. The State of North Carolina requires that each county produces a Community Health Assessment document (CHA) every four years. The last CHA in Franklin County was conducted in 2007. One of the purposes of conducting a new CHA is to identify new priority issues for Franklin County for the next four years.

Franklin County Overview and Description

Franklin County is a rural county in the Piedmont region of North Carolina, located just 21 miles northeast of the state capital of Raleigh. The county covers 494 square miles and consists of five municipalities: Bunn, Centerville, Franklinton, Youngsville, and Louisburg, which is the county seat. The county is bordered by Granville, Vance, and Warren Counties on the north, Nash County on the east, and Wake County on the south. According to the 2010 United State Census, the total population of Franklin County was 60,619. The 2010 median family income was \$55,899, and the unemployment rate in Franklin County at the end of the first quarter of 2011 was 9.9%.

Community Health Assessment Process

The Franklin County Community Assessment Team for 2011 is comprised of three levels of participants: the advisory group, the work group, and the project facilitator. Primary data was collected through a Community Health Opinion Survey and the creation of a Health Resource Inventory. Secondary data was gathered from a variety of online sources.

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Health Statistics

- The top five leading causes of death in Franklin County in 2009 are as follows: cancer (23.9%), heart disease (19.8%), chronic lower respiratory diseases (6%), cerebrovascular diseases (5.3%), and unintentional injuries other than motor vehicle injuries (3.6%).
- From 2005-2009, the infant mortality rate for Franklin County was 7.8 per 1,000 live births. Franklin County's rate is lower than the NC rate of 8.3 for the same 5-year period.
- The overall cancer incidence rate per 100,000 for Franklin County for 2004-2008 was 515.6 while North Carolina's was 495.2.
- The percentage of people told by their doctor that they had diabetes increased in both the county and the state from 2009 to 2010. The 2010 county percentage of 7.4% remains below the 2010 state percentage of 9.8%.
- The percentage of people in Franklin County who have been told by a doctor that they have angina or coronary heart disease decreased from 3.0% in 2009 to 2.6% in 2010.
- From 2007 to 2010, Franklin County's percentage of the population who is overweight has increased slightly while the percentage of the population who is obese has decreased slightly. In 2008, the percentages of overweight and obese children ages 2-18 in the county were 22.0% and 29.3% respectively. In 2009 these numbers decreased to 18.9% and 22.9%.
- While the number of new chlamydia, syphilis, and HIV cases remained nearly the same from 2009 to 2010, the number of new gonorrhea cases in Franklin County decreased nearly ten percent from 2009 to 2010.
- Franklin County's total teen pregnancy rate per 1,000 girls ages 15-17 for 2009 of 26 remains below the state rate of 30.
- Franklin County's percentage of uninsured adults ages 18-64 has been below the state percentage for the past four years.

Health Priorities

The following topics were chosen as health priorities for Franklin County for 2011-2015:

- Access to Care
- Physical Activity and Nutrition including Chronic Diseases and Obesity

Next Steps

The 2011 Franklin County CHA will be presented to the Board of Health and then disseminated to the residents of the county. The findings from the CHA will then be used to create Community Health Action Plans to address the chosen health priorities. Finally, a State of the County Health Report (SOTCH) will be created in each of the three years before the next CHA is due in 2015.