

Appendix A – Proposed Indicators for a Community Health Profile

Institute of Medicine To promote community use of health profiles, the [IOM] committee is proposing a basic set of 25 indicators (see Table 5-1). They provide descriptive information on a community's demographic and socioeconomic characteristics and highlight important aspects of health status and various health determinants, including behavior, factors in the social and physical environments, and health care. Some the indicators include multiple measures within a broader category (e.g., causes of death and incidence of infectious diseases). [For further details see appendix 5A in *Improving the Health of the Community: A Role for Performance Monitoring*].

Sociodemographic Characteristics

1. Distribution of the population by age and race / ethnicity
2. Number and proportion of persons in groups such as migrants, homeless, or the non-English speaking, for whom access to community services and resources may be a concern.
3. Number and proportion of persons aged 25 and older with less than a high school education.
4. Ratio of the number of students graduating from high school to the number of students who entered 9th grade three years previously.
5. Median household income.
6. Proportion of children less than 15 years of age living in families at or below the poverty level.
7. Unemployment rate.
8. Number and proportion of single-parent families.
9. Number and proportion of persons without health insurance.

Health Status

10. Infant mortality rate by race / ethnicity.
11. Numbers of deaths or age-adjusted death rates for motor vehicle crashes, work-related injuries, suicide, homicide, lung cancer, breast cancer, cardiovascular diseases, and all causes, by age, race, and gender as appropriate.
12. Reported incidence of AIDS, measles, tuberculosis, and primary and secondary syphilis, by age, race and gender as appropriate.
13. Births to adolescents (ages 10-17) as a proportion of total live births.
14. Number and rate of confirmed abuse and neglect cases among children.

Health Risk Factors

15. Proportion of 2-year-old children who have received all age-appropriate vaccines, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.
16. Proportion of adults aged 65 and older who have ever been immunized in the past 12 months for influenza.
17. Proportion of the population who smoke, by age, race and gender as appropriate.
18. Proportion of the population aged 18 and older who are obese.
19. Number and type of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency air quality standards no met.
20. Proportion of assessed rivers, lakes and estuaries, that support beneficial USES (e.g., fishing and swimming approved)

Health Care Resource Consumption

21. Per capita healthcare spending for Medicare beneficiaries (the Medicare adjusted average per capita cost [AAPCC])

Functional Status

22. Proportion of adults reporting that their general health is good to excellent.
23. During the past 30 days, average number of days for which adults report that their physical or mental health was not good.

Quality of Life

24. Proportion of adults satisfied with the health care system in the community.
25. Proportion of person satisfied with the quality of life in the community.

Source: Institute of Medicine – *Improving Health in the Community A Role for Performance Monitoring*