



# COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE

An Information Service of the Philadelphia Health Management Corporation

## The Affiliate Program

### About PHMC

Philadelphia Health Management Corporation (PHMC) is a nonprofit, public health organization committed to improving community health through outreach, education, research, planning, technical assistance, and direct services. Since 1972, PHMC has offered a diverse mix of programs and services to support its organizational mission.

### The Community Health Data Base

The COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE has been an integral part of PHMC for 20 years. It is a resource for all types of health and social service agencies in Southeastern Pennsylvania. The COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE collects primary data through its biannual **Southeastern Pennsylvania Household Health Survey** and provides access to secondary data sets, such as the U.S. Census and vital statistics data. The Pew Charitable Trusts, The William Penn Foundation, and The United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania provide foundation support for this unique research initiative along with contributions from participating organizations.

### Community Focus

The COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE provides population-based data to health and human services organizations interested in gaining a better understanding of the communities they serve and how to best meet their needs. Through its Affiliate Program, the Community Health Data Base offers access to local data to community-based nonprofits. The COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE specializes in small-area analysis and contains information about health status, access to care and service use for all segments of the population living in **Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia** counties. All data can be analyzed by geographic, social or demographic criteria so that you get the most targeted view of your service area. Some examples of frequently used population subsets are listed below.

#### Geographic

- Neighborhoods
- Census tracts
- ZIP codes
- Planning Analysis Sections
- Health districts
- Suburban townships
- County
- SEPA region

#### Demographic

- Older adults
- Any age or age group
- Gender
- Children
- Ethnic and racial groups
- The poor/welfare recipients
- Uninsured
- And many others

## Data Sets

The COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE collects, maintains and disseminates data from the following sources. Information contained within each data set is described on the following pages.

- **PHMC's Southeastern Pennsylvania Household Health Survey**
- **U.S. Census**
- **Vital Statistics**
- **Property and Mortgage Data**

## How to Join

Community-based nonprofit organizations are invited to join PHMC's COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE as Affiliates. Affiliates pay a small fee based on a sliding scale. The program is designed for nonprofit organizations that do not have the internal resources to collect and analyze community-based data on their own. As an Affiliate, your organization is assigned a COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE staff researcher, who serves as your data contact and advisor. For instance, your Data Base researcher can advise your organization on the type of data that would best suit a given program evaluation or proposal -- and will provide the numbers you need in a professional and timely manner. In addition to this one-on-one service, the COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE provides seminars, newsletters and reports, and an extensive website to support your strategic use of the data. Go to [www.phmc.org/chdb](http://www.phmc.org/chdb) to view the on-line registration form.



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## Affiliate Products & Services

### Personalized Research Assistance

As an Affiliate of the COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE, your organization is assigned a research associate who can be reached by phone, fax, or e-mail. Or, you can perform your own data runs online at [www.phmc.org/chdb](http://www.phmc.org/chdb). The customized research you receive as a participant in the COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE Affiliate program saves you and your staff hours of valuable research time and ensures that your organization is using the most current and accurate data available. To get acquainted with the program and the data, your assigned researcher is available to provide an on-site orientation.

### A Rich Array of Data

Once you've joined the COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE, you'll have access to a goldmine of local data to support your proposals and add insight to your planning strategies. The data sets available through the COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE include detailed health data from PHMC's Southeastern Pennsylvania Household Health Survey, vital statistics from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Health, and demographic data from the U.S. Census. Best of all, these data can be analyzed specifically for *your* community.

### Online Resources

Affiliates have unlimited access to THE COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE'S new and enhanced website. Here you'll find the COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE'S online data analysis tool. This tool provides Affiliates with selected data from PHMC's 2000, 2002, 2004 and 2006 Southeastern Pennsylvania Household Health Surveys -- searchable by Zipcode -- as well as links to other data sources and health-related sites. The website also includes digital copies of the COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE'S newsletters and articles, announcements regarding upcoming events, a bulletin board, and much more.

### Publications and Reports

The COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE keeps you and your key staff members up-to-date with a series of informative newsletters. *Directions* is PHMC's corporate newsletter. Each issue features an insert of *AccessNotes*, the COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE newsletter that highlights data on important public health issues. *CHDB Frontpage* is a monthly electronic web publication that showcases key health data and copies of presentations and reports prepared by COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE staff. Special reports such as Uninsured Adults in SEPA, An Exploration of Asian Adults in SEPA and the Mid-Decade Review are also available.

### Special Events

Affiliates are invited to participate in trainings, seminars & workgroups held at PHMC. Previous seminars have provided skills training on outcome measurement and how to conduct a survey as well as special interest forums on topics such as children's health and the health of older adults. COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE'S events present an opportunity for professional development and networking with colleagues.





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## Household Health Survey Methodology

The Community Health Data Base's Southeastern Pennsylvania Household Health Survey is an extensive health survey that provides timely information on more than 13,000 residents — children and adults — living in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties. The survey targets key information about health status, personal health behaviors, and access to, utilization of and quality of area health services. These data are available at the Census Tract, ZIP code and county level. (See attached “Major Topic Areas” list for more details.)

- Household Health Survey data are local, not extrapolations based on national or state data.
- The data are community-based, rather than resource-based.
- Due to the Survey's large sample size, the data can be examined on very small levels of geography.
- The data can be examined for population subgroups within target areas.

### Survey Methodology

The 2006 survey is the tenth conducted by PHMC since 1983. The 2006 survey will be in the field from June to September 2006.

The survey includes interviews in more than 10,000 households in the region and includes information on more than 13,000 individuals (adults, older adults and children).

Interviews are conducted by telephone using a random-digit dial methodology.

Adult & child respondents are randomly selected using the “last birthday” method.

Interviews about the selected child are conducted with a child proxy, who is the person most knowledgeable about the child's health. (In three-fourths of households, that person is the child's mother.)

The survey includes an oversample of Latino households, persons 60+ and persons 75+

Interviews are conducted in English & Spanish, when needed.

## Uses for Household Health Survey Data

The Household Health Survey provides primary data on a broad range of health and social service topics and can be used by various departments within an organization to support:

**Community health planning**

**Needs assessments**

**Grant-writing, development and institutional advancement**

**Advocacy and public relations**

**Disease management initiatives**

**Benchmarking and validation of in-house research and service utilization**

**Support of grant requirements and other research**

**Market planning**

**Strategic growth decisions, including facility acquisition and divestiture**

Contact your assigned Research Associate for more details about how COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE data can be used to support decision making within your agency.

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# COMMUNITY HEALTH DATA BASE

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## SEPA Household Health Survey Major Topic Areas

### Health Status

*Information on Adults & Children*

- Self-reported health status
- Lifetime prevalence/existence of chronic health conditions (asthma, diabetes, high blood pressure & cholesterol, heart disease, cancer, allergies)
- Prescription med. for specific conditions
- Times child visited ED due to asthma
- A1C test for diabetes
- Stroke
- Disabilities

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### Source of Care and Utilization of Services

*Information on Adults & Children*

- Regular source of care
- Setting of regular care
- Most recent medical visit
- Number of visits to various health care settings in past year
- Number of overnight stays in the hospital

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### Health Insurance

*Information on Adults & Children (where applicable)*

- Current source(s) of health coverage
- Type of health coverage (HMO/PPO/FFS)
- Name of insurance company
- Coverage for prescription drugs
- Coverage for dental care
- Respondents without health insurance during past year: length of time; ability to get care; reason why no coverage
- Visited ER due to lack of health insurance
- Heard of medical assistance/CHIP

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### Obstacles to Care

*Information on Adults & Children*

- Failure to seek care in past year due to cost
- Failure to fill a prescription due to cost
- Failure to receive dental care due to cost
- Transportation barriers to healthcare
- Language barriers to healthcare

### Personal Health Behaviors

*Information on Adults, Children, as appropriate*

- Smoking status and use of tobacco
- Exposure to cigarette smoke in household
- Former smokers - length of time since quit and quit method
- Height/weight; BMI, adults & children
- Advised by doctor to lose weight
- Fast food consumption
- Number of servings of fruits & vegetables
- Frequency of exercise, adults & children
- Use of alcohol
- Sexual partners and risk behaviors

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### Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

- Length of time since last screening/exam:

*For All Adults and Children:*

- Eye examination
- Dental visit
- Flu shots

*For All Adults:*

- Blood pressure reading
- Cholesterol check
- Test for AIDS/HIV

*For Older Adults:*

- Blood stool test (ages 50+)
- Colonoscopy/Sigmoidoscopy (50+)
- Pneumonia vaccine (60+)

*For Women:*

- Pap smear (18+)
- Clinical breast exam (18+)
- Mammogram (40+)
- Osteoporosis screening (45+)

*For Men:*

- Prostate cancer screening (45+)

*For Children:*

- Was child required to get additional shots before entering school

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## Doctor-patient Relations

### *Information on Adults*

- Advised by a doctor to quit smoking
  - Talked to doctor about nutrition; exercise
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## Mental Health

### *Information on Adults and Children*

- Existence & treatment of diagnosed mental health conditions
  - Depression scale (older adults 60+)
  - Level of stress in the past year
  - Use of professional mental health services
  - No mental health care due to cost
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## Social Capital

### *Information on Adults*

- Volunteering
  - Length of time living in neighborhood
  - Use of recreation facilities in neighborhood
  - Involvement in local groups & organizations
  - Willingness of community to help neighbors
  - Community improvement
  - Sense of belonging to the community
  - Feelings of trust in the community
  - Quality of life in the community
  - Social support
  - Caregiving for older adults
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## Safety and Violence

### *Information on Adults & Children*

- Presence of firearms in household (kept locked, kept loaded)
  - Personal safety (feeling of safety in community)
  - Experience of physical violence
  - Did violence result in need for medical attention
  - Intimate partner violence
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## Hunger & Food Availability

### *Information on Adults*

- Skipped meals due to cost
  - Hungry but could not afford food
  - Availability of fruits and vegetables in neighborhood
  - Quality of groceries in neighborhood
  - Travel to supermarkets
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## Child Care and Youth Employment

### *Information on about Households, Adults and Children*

- Use of formal or informal child care services
- Number of children receiving child care
- Problems with child care
- Participation in organized after-school activities
- Employment and school attendance (ages 13-24)

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## ELDERLY SUPPLEMENT (60+)

### *Additional questions asked of persons age 60 and older:*

### Utilization of Home Health Services

- Use of informal home care
- Frequency of receiving help
- Use of formal or paid home health services
- Method of payment for home health services

### Utilization of Aids/Services

- Utilization of specific aids/devices
- Familiarity, use, and need for specific services:
  - Activities at senior centers/clubs
  - Meal/food programs
  - Transportation services
  - PACE/prescription drug assistance
  - Senior helpline/info. referral line
  - Housing services, energy assistance, repairs

### Housing & Environment

- Household areas in need of repair
- Falls

### ADL & IADL Impairments

- Number of ADL impairments (ADL scale)
  - Number of IADL impairments (IADL scale)
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### Demographic Characteristics

- Number of adults & children in the household
  - Age of child selected for interview; grade in school
  - Language of interview (English or Spanish)
  - Other language spoken in the household
  - Education level & Employment status
  - Religion
  - Age, Gender, Race, Hispanic origin
  - Marital status
  - Household income level/poverty status
  - Benefits/entitlements received by members of the household including TANF
  - Family denied welfare benefits
  - Own or rent housing
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### Geographic Location of Household

- All households are located in Southeastern Pennsylvania: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties
- Data can be aggregated by region, county, township, ZIPcode, census tract



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## Secondary Data Sets

### U.S. Census Data

**Source:** Census Bureau/Claritas

**Years:** 1990-2000, current year and five year projections

**Geography:** Region (SEPA), Census Tract, Zipcode, Minor Civil Division (MCD), county. Plus, in Philadelphia: health district, neighborhood, and Planning Analysis Section (PAS).

#### Indicators:

Population totals/age by sex/median age  
Per capita income

Living arrangements/housing units

Average. median household income

Household income distribution

Race totals/race by sex

Median age by race/median age by race and sex

Race by age by sex

Data from base-year Census (1990, 2000):

Geog. type/linguistically isolated/citizenship/HH size

Additional housing variables (renter/owner occupied, vacant, year house built, median house value, length of time at residence, elderly living alone)

Education by race/employment status

Occupation/income statistics (type of occupation, public assistance)

Poverty status by age-sex/age-race

Additional poverty variables (female-headed households in poverty, families with children, ratio of income to poverty level)

Disability status

### Vital Statistics

**Source:** Pennsylvania Department of Health

**Years:** 1995-2002

**Geography:** Region (SEPA), Census Tract, Zipcode, Minor Civil Division (MCD), county. Plus, in Philadelphia: health district, neighborhood, and Planning Analysis Section (PAS).

#### Indicators/Birth data:

Birth rate

Birth rate for women 15-44

Birth rate for adolescents 10-17

Low birthweight

Prenatal care

Neonatal Mortality rate (first 27 days)

Infant Mortality rate (first year)

#### Indicators/Mortality data:

All causes

Heart disease

Stroke

All cancers

Lung cancer

Breast cancer

Pneumonia/influenza

Accidents/drugs

Homicide

Suicide

Other causes

## Mortgage Data

**Source:** Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data provided by The Reinvestment Fund

**Years:** 1998, 2000

**Geography:** Region (SEPA), Census tract, and county

**Indicators:**

Overall application profile including purpose – purchase, home improvement, refinance;

Type of Mortgage – conventional, FHA, VA, FMHA, all gov't insured Action – approved, denied, withdrawn; average dollars approved)

Mortgage application by race/income

## Property Data

**Source:** Board of Revision of Taxes and the Dept. of Revenue of Philadelphia

**Years:** 1999

**Geography:** Philadelphia County by tract, health district, neighborhood, Planning Analysis Section

**Indicators:**

Housing and commercial sales values (mean and median value by building type)

Housing and commercial market Value (mean and median value by building type)

Sale/Market Value ratios (mean and median value by building type)

Total land area (percentage of building type by square footage)

Tax delinquent properties

Exempt properties by type