

Sources and Technical Notes for Maine CDC/DHHS Public Health Indicators

For more information about these statistics, please visit the Technical Notes and Sources pages at the back of the 2007 Maine CDC/DHHS *Health District Profiles*, from which some of these data were selected. *Please note:* in some cases the indicators here have been updated or revised as new data became available. The *Profiles* and this table are found at www.mainepublichealth.gov, are downloadable onto CDs and may be reproduced without permission. This data should replace that in the *Profiles*. Other notes:

There are three (3) DHHS Districts whose jurisdictional borders follow a single county [Aroostook, Cumberland, and York] and five (5) DHHS Health District jurisdictions that cover either 2, 3, or 4 counties [Central, Downeast, Midcoast, Penquis, Western Districts.]	Highlighted cells are those that may be significantly different than the state rate because the data fall outside the margin of error.	Race/ethnicity estimates herein reflect one type of Census format so that when a person of more than one race is counted, he or she is counted in more than one racial category. This will result in a total count higher than the actual total population count for the jurisdiction when it comes to race/ethnicity.	What is measured to compare disease burden by District is not always what should be measured to compare state to national data (which is not always age-adjusted.)	Differences in methodology for data calculations may be too great to directly compare District or State data with US or Benchmarking State data sets such as found in <i>Healthy People 2010</i> , or the Commonwealth, Kaiser, or United Health Foundation indicators ranking projects. They are still informative so they have been included.	Indicators change over time, especially those that depend in coding regulations, which themselves change.	Data for the single county Districts are sometimes calculated differently than those of multi-county Districts. For example, median ages are not comparable across Districts, but still provide useful information.	Many other complicated factors, such as when the population (Census) changes, means rates are not always comparable
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AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY [ACS] www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html. A mail survey about communities in between the 10-year Census and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. ACS surveys the same selected Maine counties every year; so state level ACS data are estimates, and county-level ACS data are not available for all counties.

BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTOR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM [BRFSS] www.cdc.gov/brfss. An annual, national telephone survey of randomly selected, residential, non-institutionalized adults aged 18 and older to collect uniform data on preventive health behaviors and risk factors. Responses are voluntary and based on self-report. Conducted in Maine by Maine CDC/DHHS.

HOSPITAL DISCHARGE DATASETS www.mhdo.org. A database of all hospitalizations and emergency department visits in Maine facilities; for this table restricted to Maine residents. Compiled in Maine by the Maine Health Data Organization.

MAINE CANCER REGISTRY <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/uscs/>. A Maine CDC/DHHS program charged with collecting data on cancer incidence and deaths within the state of Maine and among Maine residents.

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY www.maine.gov/dps. Provides criminal justice, law enforcement, fire safety, and emergency response services and compiles data.

MAINE GENERAL POPULATION DRUG AND ALCOHOL SURVEY www.maine.gov/dhhs/osa/data/pubrpts.htm. The Maine Office of Substance Abuse's [OSA/DHHS] statewide quantitative research study on drug and alcohol use and abuse issues.

MAINE YOUTH DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE SURVEY/MAINE YOUTH TOBACCO SURVEY [MYDAUS/YTS] www.maine.gov/dhhs/osa/data/mydaus/index.htm. Provides comprehensive data on substance use among Maine's 6th-12th graders. Conducted by Maine CDC/DHHS and Maine OSA/DHHS.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS [NCHS] www.cdc.gov/nchs. The US CDC provides statistics compiled from data submitted by individual states, primarily in Maine from Maine CDC/DHHS.

PREGNANCY RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING SYSTEM [PRAMS] www.maine.gov/dhhs/bohodr/prams.htm. A state-wide representative survey of new mothers conducted on an ongoing basis in Maine by Maine CDC/DHHS since 1987 on maternal experiences and attitudes before, during, and shortly after pregnancy.

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU www.census.gov. The Census Bureau provides data on the people and economy of the United States in great detail.

YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY [YRBS] www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/. An every other year survey conducted at the state level in every state to collect uniform data on health risk behaviors among youth. It surveys publicly-funded Maine middle and high schools and the students attending those schools. Conducted by the Maine Department of Education with funding from the US CDC.