



2015 Shared CHNA: Summary of Findings from Surveillance Data & Stakeholders Survey

**Table 22. Priority Health Issue Successes and Challenges for Piscataquis County-
Surveillance Data**

Health Issues – Surveillance Data	
Health Successes	Health Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower percentage of current asthma among youth ages 0-17 years [PSC=7.4%; ME=9.1%] • Low incidence rates for bladder cancer 23.2; ME=28.3], melanoma [PSC=17.6; ME=22.2] and prostate cancer [PSC=87.5; ME=133.8]* • Fewer babies born with low birth weight (<2500 grams) [PSC=4.7%; ME=6.6%] • Piscataquis has less domestic assaults reports to police per 100,000 population [PSC=326.0; ME=413.0] and less reported rape per 100,000 population [PSC=0.0; ME=27.0] • Low rates of motor vehicle crash related deaths per 100,000 population 8.2; ME=10.8] • Low emergency medical service overdose response [252.6; ME=391.5] • Lower binge drinking of alcoholic beverages among high school students [PSC=12.2%; ME=14.8%] • Among high school students, lower past-30 day marijuana use [PSC=15.8%; ME=21.6%] and nonmedical use of prescription drugs [PSC=3.9%; ME=5.6%]* • Low substance abuse hospital admissions 88.6; ME=328.1]* • Low incidence of past or present hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection per 100,000 population [PSC=52.9; ME=107.1] • Piscataquis has low incidence rates for Lyme disease [PSC=11.7; ME=105.3], chlamydia [PSC=211.4; ME=265.5] and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piscataquis has a higher overall age-adjusted mortality rate per 100,000 population [PSC=847.4; ME=745.8]* than the state. • High ambulatory care-sensitive condition hospital admission rate per 100,000 population [PSC=2,095.3; ME=1,499.3]* • Piscataquis also faces several respiratory health related challenges, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher percentage of adults diagnosed for COPD [PSC=9.2%; ME=7.6%] and higher COPD hospitalizations per 100,000 population [PSC=312.4; ME=216.3]* than the state. • High pneumonia emergency department rate per 100,000 population [PSC=990.1; ME=719.9]* • High pneumonia hospitalizations per 100,000 population [PSC=408.5; ME=329.4] • High incidence rates for female breast late stage cancer [PSC=54.1; ME=41.6] and lung cancer [PSC=81.6; U.S.=58.6] • More diabetes prevalence [PSC=12.1%; ME=9.6%] as well as high diabetes emergency department visits per 100,000 population 337.4; ME=235.9]* • Piscataquis faces a number of cardiovascular health related challenges, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High acute myocardial infarction hospitalizations per 10,000 population [PSC=30.9; ME=23.5]* • High acute myocardial infarction mortality per 100,000 population [PSC=50.8; ME=32.2]* • High coronary heart disease mortality per 100,000 population [PSC=110.6; ME=89.8]* • High stroke hospitalizations per 10,000 population [PSC=25.0; ME=20.8]* as well as high stroke mortality per 100,000 population [PSC=44.4; ME=35.0] • High firearm deaths per 100,000 population [PSC=18.4; ME=9.2]* as well as high violent crime rate per 100,000

Health Issues – Surveillance Data	
Health Successes	Health Challenges
HIV [PSC=0.0; ME=4.4]	<p>population [PSC=209.6; ME=125.0]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High rate of suicide deaths per 100,000 population 21.8; ME=15.2] • More children with confirmed elevated blood lead levels (% among those screened) [PIS=5.5%; ME=2.5%]* • High rates of alcohol-induced mortality [PSC=10.6; ME=8.0] • More drug affected baby referrals received [PSC=11.9%; ME=7.8%] • High rates of opiate poisoning ED visits [PSC=29.8; ME=25.1] and hospitalizations [PSC=22.6; ME=13.2] • High Prescription Monitoring Program opioid prescriptions (Days supply/population) [PSC=8.2; ME=6.8] • High mental health emergency department rates [PSC=2,238.8; ME=1,972.1]* • High incidence of newly reported chronic hepatitis B virus (HBV) infections [PSC=11.7; ME=8.1] and pertussis incidence per 100,000 population [PSC=164.5; ME=41.9]

Asterisk (*) indicates a statistically significant difference between Piscataquis County and Maine
All rates are per 100,000 population unless otherwise noted

Table 23. Priority Health Issue Challenges and Resources for Piscataquis County-Stakeholder Survey Responses

Stakeholder Input - Stakeholder Survey Responses ¹	
Community Challenges	Community Resources
<p>Biggest health issues in Piscataquis County according to stakeholders (<i>% of those rating issue as a major or critical problem in their area</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obesity (72%) • Depression (72%) • Drug and alcohol abuse (70%) • Respiratory diseases (69%) • Mental health (67%) 	<p>Assets Needed to Address Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obesity: Greater access to affordable and healthy food; more programs that support low income families • Depression/Mental health: More mental health professionals; more community-based services; better funding and support; greater access to inpatient care; readily available information about resources; transitional programs • Drug and alcohol abuse: Greater access to drug/alcohol treatments; greater access to substance abuse prevention programs; free or low-cost

¹ Results are from the Maine Shared Community Health Needs Assessment Stakeholder Survey, conducted in May-June, 2015.

	<p>treatments for the uninsured; more substance abuse treatment providers; additional therapeutic programs</p> <p>Assets Available in County/State:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obesity: Public gyms; farmers markets; Maine SNAP-ED Program; school nutrition programs; public walking and biking trails; Healthy Maine Partnerships; Let's Go! 5-2-1-0 • Drug and alcohol abuse: Maine Alcoholics Anonymous; Substance Abuse Hotlines; Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services • Depression/ Mental health: Mental health/counseling providers and programs
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Table 24. Priority Health Factor Strengths and Challenges for Piscataquis County-Surveillance Data

Health Factors – Surveillance Data	
Health Factor Strengths	Health Factor Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer individuals who are unable to obtain or delay obtaining necessary medical care due to cost [PSC=10.9%; U.S.=15.3%] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piscataquis has a number of socioeconomic challenges, including a higher unemployment rate [PSC=7.5%; ME=5.7%] than the state, more adults living in poverty [PSC=18.5%; ME=13.6%]*, more children living in poverty [PSC=28.9%; ME=18.5%]*, a lower median household income [PSC=\$36,646; ME=\$48,453] and more single parent families [PSC=40.8%; ME=34.0%] • Piscataquis has a higher percentage of uninsured people than the state [PSC=14.4%; ME=10.4%]* • Lower always wear seatbelts among youth [PSC=49.6%; ME=61.6%]* • More adults with sedentary lifestyle – no leisure-time physical activity in past month [PSC=28.2%; ME=22.4%]* • Lower fruit and vegetable consumption among high school students [PSC=15.6%; ME=16.8%]* • A higher percentage of children with elevated blood lead levels (among those screened) [PSC=5.5%; ME=2.5%]* • Fewer homes with private wells tested for arsenic [PSC=33.7%; ME=43.3%] and lower levels of lead screening among children age 12-23 months [PSC =42.3%; ME=49.2%]* and children age 24-35 months [PSC =22.6%; ME=27.6%]* • More immunization exemptions among kindergarteners for philosophical reasons [PSC=4.8%; ME=3.7%] • Higher current cigarette smoking rate among adults [PSC=24.5%; ME=20.2%] and high school students [PSC=15.1%; ME=12.9%] • More secondhand smoke exposure among youth [PSC=46.1%;

ME=38.3%]

Asterisk (*) indicates a statistically significant difference between Piscataquis County and Maine
 All rates are per 100,000 population unless otherwise noted

Table 25. Priority Health Factor Challenges and Resources for Piscataquis County-Stakeholder Responses

Stakeholder Input- Stakeholder Survey Responses ²	
Community Challenges	Community Resources
<p>Biggest health factors leading to poor health outcomes in Piscataquis County according to stakeholders (<i>% of those rating factor as a major or critical problem in their area</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty (83%) • Employment (75%) • Transportation (72%) • Food security (63%) • Housing stability (62%) 	<p>Assets Needed to Address Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty: Greater economic development; increased mentoring services; more skills trainings; more employment opportunities at livable wages; better transportation; better education • Employment: More job creations; more training; more employment opportunities at livable wages; greater economic development; more funding for education • Transportation: More/better transportation systems; better access to public transportation; additional funding for organizations that help with rides to medical appointments; additional resources for transportation for the elderly and disabled • Food security: Access to free or reduced meals; greater access to healthy food and locally grown food; Greater support for food pantries <p>Assets Available in County/State:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty: General Assistance; other federal, state and local programs • Employment: Adult education centers; career centers • Food security: Local food sources (farms; fisheries; etc.); Farmers markets; Food pantries; SNAP; Local churches; Backpack for hungry kids programs • Housing stability: Maine Affordable Housing Coalition; Low income housing/section 8 programs

² Results are from the Maine Shared Community Health Needs Assessment Stakeholder Survey, conducted in May-June, 2015.