

Community Profiles Definitions of Measures

DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Population:

The population distributions are from the 1990 and 2000 Decennial Census. The sum of proportions does not always equal 100% due to rounding. The 2004 mid-point (July) population estimate is from the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Population Estimates.

Females 15-44 Years:

Females 15-44 years are used as the population (denominator) of women who are of childbearing age.

Race and Ethnic Composition:

The distribution of the population by race and Hispanic origin is not comparable between the 1990 and 2000 census. Data was collected for single categories in 1990 and multiple categories in 2000. The 2000 census data as presented are for persons of one race or Hispanic origin. "Other Non-Hispanics" include persons of other and multiple racial groups.

SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS

Median Household Income:

This is a measure of household income during the year preceding the census in which half of the households were below and half the households were above this amount. The use of constant dollars allows for a valid comparison of medians, since this measure accounts for inflation during the ten-year period.

Persons below 100% (and 200%) of the Poverty Level:

The number and percent of persons in households or group quarters, other than institutions, with income levels at or below 100% and 200% of the federally defined poverty level

Related Children Under 18 Years (Childhood Poverty):

The number of persons under 18 years of age who lived in households or group quarters, other than institutions, where the income was at or below the federally defined poverty level

Households with Social Security Income: Number of households with income from Old Age Survivors and Disability Insurance under the Social Security Act (OASDI)

Households with Public Assistance Income: Money income received under old age assistance, disability assistance, blind assistance, and families with dependent children (AABD)

High School Graduates 25 Years and Older:

The number and percent of persons aged 25 years and older who have received a high school diploma or its equivalent

College Graduates 25 Years and Older:

The number and percent of persons aged 25 years and older who have received a four-year college diploma

Unemployed Persons 16 Years and Older:

The number and percent of persons 16 years and older in the civilian labor force who are unemployed

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

Mother Only Family with Children (Female-Headed Households):

The number and percent of family households with related children under 18 years of age headed by a woman without a spouse present

Persons 65 Years and Older Living Alone:

The number and percent of persons 65 years of age and older who live alone

NATALITY

Total Births:

The three-year total number of births to mothers residing in the community area. The rate is computed by dividing the number of live births by the total population multiplied by 1,000.

Mother Under 20 Years (Teen Births):

The three-year total number and percent of live births to women less than 20 years of age

Birth Weight Under 2500 Grams (Low Birth Weight):

The three-year number and percent of live births weighing less than 2500 grams (5.5 pounds)

Prenatal Begun After First Trimester (Prenatal Care):

The three-year number and percent of live births to mothers who did not seek prenatal care, or did not seek prenatal care until after the first trimester of pregnancy

Fertility Rate:

The number of live births divided by the number of women 15-44 years, 15-19 years and 15-17 years multiplied by 1,000

INFANT DEATHS

Infant Deaths:

The three-year total number of deaths of children under one year old. The rate is computed by dividing the number of infant deaths by the number of live births multiplied by 1,000.

Congenital Anomalies: Malformation of any part of the body at birth. Examples include but are not limited to: Spina Bifida, Cleft Lip, Congenital Hydrocephalus, and malformations of the nervous system, ears, eyes, heart, lungs, and brain.

Diseases of Early Infancy: Diseases occurring during pregnancy or after birth, usually due to maternal complications or trauma, maternal risk factors, or delivery complications. Examples include but are not limited to: prematurity, low birth weight, Rubella, Viral Hepatitis, cardiac disorders or failure, neonatal hypertension, streptococcal infection, blood loss, hemorrhages, digestive disorders, feeding problems, reactions to maternal drug use.

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS): The number of infants who died from SIDS

MORTALITY

Crude Death Rate:

The three-year total of all deaths divided by the total population multiplied by 100,000

Age-Adjusted Death Rate:

Since certain health outcomes affect different age groups, two communities with different age structures cannot be compared through crude rates. Age-adjusting is a way of adjusting the crude rate so that communities with different age structures can be compared. For more details on why age-adjusting is important, visit <http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/cancer/nyscr/age.htm>.

Age-Adjusted rates are computed by the direct method by applying age-specific rates in a population of interest to a standardized age distribution to eliminate differences that result from age differences in population composition. This is done by multiplying the sum of the age-specific rates for the population of interest by the standard population in each age group divided by the sum of the standard population in all age groups.

Number/ Average Years of Life Lost per Death:

This is a measure of premature mortality. The number of deaths within each five-year age group is multiplied by the difference between 75 and the midpoint of the five-year age group. The average of the YPLL is computed by taking the sum of the YPLL in each age group divided by the total number of deaths occurring in persons less than 75 years.

CAUSE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY

Cause Specific Death Rates (Unadjusted):

The three-year number of resident deaths and death rate per 100,000 population are given for each indicated cause of death. The listed causes of death are not exhaustive, and are not age-adjusted, and therefore cannot be compared across communities.

Cause Specific Death Rates (Age-Adjusted) (CCDPH, Suburban Cook County, and District Profiles Only):

The three-year number of resident deaths and death rate per 100,000 population are given for each indicated cause of death. The listed causes of death are not exhaustive and are age-adjusted, and therefore can be compared across communities. Age-adjusted cause-specific mortality is only available for CCDPH and district profiles.

REPORTABLE DISEASES

Reportable Infectious Diseases:

Reportable diseases are those mandated by state law to be tabulated and reported to the certified local public health authority. The reportable conditions reported in the profiles are three-year totals for HIV/AIDS, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Hepatitis B, Syphilis, and Tuberculosis. The rates are per 100,000 population and not age-adjusted.

Sources:

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/dataawh/nchsdefs/list.htm>, 2006
New York State Department of Health, <http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/cancer/nyscr/age.htm>, 2006