

Background

Preface

The Community Health Assessment Report 2004 is organized into three parts. The first part, the Executive Summary, provides an overview of key population health issues in the Winnipeg Health Region. The second part, Population Health Profiles, describes health issues for various populations residing in the Winnipeg Health Region. The third part, the Data Book, is a comprehensive set of indicators that reflect the evidence used to develop population health profiles.

The Data Book has been created to support the information needs of the Comprehensive Community Health Assessment Report 2004. This is a technical report providing information on a comprehensive set of population health and health system measures.

Indicators in the Data Book are presented using Manitoba's Health Performance Measurement Framework. For each indicator the description, definition, methodology, source, findings and highlights are provided. Where possible, every attempt has been made to use the most current, reliable and valid information with comparisons made over time, between geographies and by sex.

Information has been obtained from a variety of sources, both quantitative and qualitative, to provide comprehensive data for the Community Health Assessment Report 2004. The development of the indicators in the Data Book is a process that has evolved over the past five years ensuring synergies between local, provincial and national activities. Indicators were identified based on the reporting needs of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Board's Strategic Plan, Manitoba Health required indicators, and the Population Health Assessment Framework of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. The Data Book could not have been produced without the contributions of many people and organizations.

Purpose

The purpose of the Data Book, Community Health Assessment Report 2004 is:

- ➔ To meet the requirements of Manitoba Health as mandated in the RHA Act, and guidelines set out by Manitoba Health (November, 2003).
- ➔ To provide baseline information on a broad set of indicators from which to measure future progress
- ➔ To support evidence-based planning, resource allocation and priority setting within the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
- ➔ To provide information that will enable and engage our community and key stakeholders (public, Community Health Advisory Councils, and other organizations) to identify and discuss opportunities to improve the health and well-being of our population
- ➔ To inform the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba Health and other organizations when developing public policy

The overall purpose of the comprehensive Community Health Assessment 2004 report is:

- ➔ To establish baseline information using Manitoba Health's Performance Measurement Framework and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority's Population Health Assessment Framework.
- ➔ To provide information to support evidence-based decision making, resource allocation and priority setting within the region
- ➔ To provide information about the determinants of health and health outcomes of the population
- ➔ To endorse the concept of measurement and monitoring in the health system
- ➔ To identify information gaps
- ➔ To meet the requirements of Manitoba Health as mandated in the Regional Health Authorities Act: 2:23:2(b).

The Data Book identifies how healthy the population is on a variety of measures and how the system compares to provincial or national measures where possible. However, it does not explain the findings nor does it identify what can be done to address the findings. It is designed to measure current status, encourage debate and dialogue and inspire action to improve the overall health of our population.

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Your feedback and input are valued, and important to the ongoing health assessment process and analysis of information. If you wish to provide feedback, please e-mail statsinfo@wrha.mb.ca or fax the Population Health and Health System Analysis Team at (204) 947-9970.

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