

Dear Reader,

This report describes selected community health indicators for specific cities and places in Contra Costa County, California. The report was prepared by Contra Costa Health Services' Community Health Assessment Planning and Evaluation (CHAPE) group on behalf of the Hospital Council of Northern and Central California. The health indicators included in the report were selected by the Hospital Council members to help them better plan and carry out their many community health projects. The selected communities were among the largest cities in the county or in ZIP codes that have been identified as disproportionately impacted by health disparities.

The Hospital Council hopes that other agencies and individuals working to improve community health will also find this report useful. With that in mind, we have written this report for a broad audience. As a reader you should be able to understand the research findings and methods without any prior experience with health statistics.

For example, at the beginning of each report section, there are summaries of key findings. In addition, each report section is designed to be skimmed and important local data is presented in bold text. Highlighted throughout the report is data describing national benchmarks, health disparities, and the size & scope of important local health concerns. We hope this innovative layout will make it easier for readers to find the data they are looking for and/or gain a quick understanding of a new health concern.

There are many recommendations that could be made after reviewing the information in this report. One key recommendation is that more effort be directed to addressing local health disparities. Improving access to health services and the quality of health care that our African American, Latino and Asian residents receive is crucial not only to these individuals and families, but also to the communities in which they live. This includes working with residents to improve the physical and social environment in which they live, work and play.

We have appreciated this chance to work in partnership with the Hospital Council on this report and hope that it contributes to the goal of improving the health of all Contra Costa residents.



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Community Health Indicators for Selected Cities and Places in Contra Costa County



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