

2007 SUMMARY REPORT

DANE COUNTY: HEALTH AT A GLANCE

**PUBLIC HEALTH -
MADISON AND DANE COUNTY**

Message from the Director

On behalf of Public Health-Madison and Dane County (PHMDC), we are pleased to present the 2007 Summary Report *“Dane County: Health at a Glance.”* The data presented in this report focus on the health of both our residents and our environment. This information will help guide the Department’s plans and actions and provide important information to community leaders, elected officials and the general public.

Dane County is home to beautiful scenery, rich natural resources, vibrant communities, and exciting recreational and cultural opportunities, all of which contribute to health. The role of PHMDC is to help preserve the health of our community by protecting the environment, controlling disease, improving health-promoting behaviors, and striving for equity and access to health care.

“Dane County: Health at a Glance” draws on data from various sources, some of which are limited in availability and scope. Nonetheless, this report provides important information specific to many key health indicators in Dane County. It includes comparison data to the rest of Wisconsin and to the Healthy People 2010 goals (when applicable) and measures our progress, achievements, and shortcomings in reaching certain health benchmarks that define a healthy population. The full report will be available online at www.PublicHealthMDC.com.

Public Health-Madison and Dane County is now a unified, county-wide agency. Our goals are to address key issues at the community level in ways that will help individuals to make healthy choices, create healthy environments, promote public health in legislation, and eliminate health disparities between population groups. The information from this report and from discussions with community members and elected officials will be an invaluable resource in achieving these vital goals.

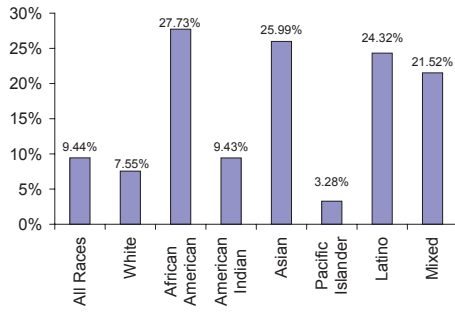


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Dane County Demographics

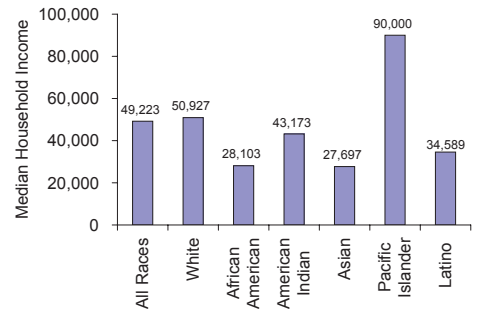
Dane County is home to 464,513 residents living in more than 60 distinct cities, villages, and towns. Between 2000 and 2006, the population of Dane County grew 8.9%. This residential growth took place both within and outside the City of Madison, and is anticipated to continue. In 2004, 9.8% of Dane County individuals lived below the poverty level, compared with 10.9% in WI.

Percent of People Below Poverty Level



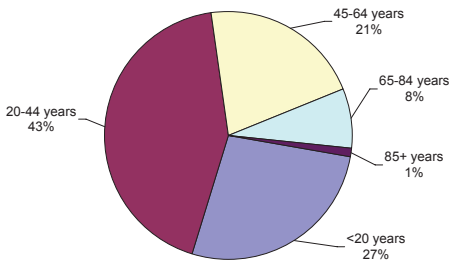
Source: 2000 census

Median Household Income by Race



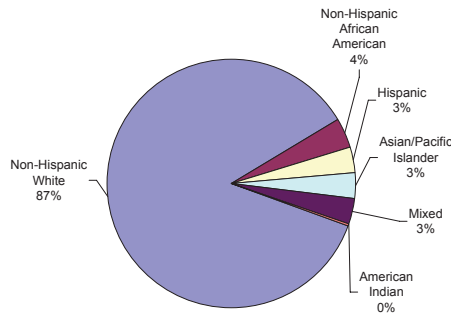
Source: 2000 census

Age Distribution of Dane County Residents



Source: 2000 census

Race Distribution of Dane County Residents



Births: Total Births 2000-2006: 33,022
 Deaths: Total Deaths 2000-2006: 15,162
 Migration: Net Migration 2000-2006: 20,127

Intestinal Infections

Intestinal infections, or “enteric diseases,” include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that are often transmitted through contaminated food but also spread from infected people or animals.

- Dane County met the CDC’s Healthy People 2010 Objective for the incidence of Hepatitis A infections in 2006, but did not for Campylobacter, E. coli O157:H7, or Salmonella infections.

Enteric Disease	Dane County Incidence* in 2006	Healthy People 2010 Goal*
Campylobacter	19.4	12.3
E. coli O157:H7	4.0	1.0
Hepatitis A	3.0	4.5
Salmonella	18.3	6.8

* cases per 100,000 population

Opportunities

- » PHMDC investigates reports and outbreaks of enteric infections to determine the source and to prevent transmission to other people.
- » To prevent enteric infections, the public should pay careful attention to handwashing, thorough cooking of meat and poultry, and thorough washing of fruits and vegetables.
- » Those people who become ill with enteric infections should be restricted from delivering food services, health services, and child care.

Immunizations

Immunizations are an effective, safe way to prevent people from acquiring specific communicable diseases. Without vaccine protection, we can easily contract and transmit infectious diseases. It may only take one person, whether it's a family member, a neighbor, or a visitor from another country, to start the spread of a disease.

- In Dane County, 91.6% of infants who turned 3 months of age during 2006 are up-to-date in their immunizations (1 DTaP, polio, Hib, Hepatitis B, PCV). While this is a respectable level, this immunization coverage should achieve the highest level possible (100%) in order to more fully protect our population from preventable diseases.
- 66.7% of 24-month-olds are up-to-date in their immunizations (4 DTaP, 3 polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hepatitis B, 1 Varicella). By this age, some children have fallen behind because of problems with access to health care or with prioritizing preventive measures.
- Most childhood immunizations are provided by the private sector through pediatricians and family physicians, but PHMDC also provides free immunizations to populations in need.

Opportunities

- » *Make sure you and your children are up-to-date in immunizations. Visit www.cdc.gov/nip for childhood and adult immunization schedules.*
- » *Get your immunization records from your health clinic or from the public health department.*
- » *Make sure you know which vaccines are recommended for traveling. Visit www.cdc.gov/travel.*
- » *PHMDC provides free immunizations to populations in need, and works with other health care and community organizations to raise immunization rates county-wide.*

Mental Health

Mental illness significantly increases the risk of developing a chronic illness and contributes further to chronic disease-related disability. Some illnesses place us at greater risk for mental illness. People with a history of major depression are four times more likely to have a heart attack and twice as likely to have a stroke.^{1,2} Depression is consistently associated with diabetes, arthritis and asthma,³ and those patients with diabetes who also have depression have medical expenditures 4.5 times higher than those patients with diabetes and no depression.⁴ Mental health influences not only our modifiable health behaviors, such as diet, exercise, smoking and alcohol use, but also our ability to access resources and manage chronic illness.

National estimates assert that 26.2% of American adults suffer from a diagnosable mental disorder in a given year.⁵ Currently, Major Depressive Disorder is the leading cause of disability in the U.S. for ages 15-44.⁶ It has been estimated that only a quarter of those with mental illness are actually diagnosed and treated.⁷ The implications are profound as we contemplate the skyrocketing cost of chronic disease and the many barriers to mental health care in Dane County.

Suicide, associated 90% of the time with mental illness,³ is the second leading cause of death for Wisconsin adolescents⁸, and is in the top four causes of death for all Wisconsin residents from ages 10 to 54. Mental illness impedes our ability to seek education, secure and maintain employment and housing, sustain relationships, and also to care for others and ourselves, including our children. The risks and burdens untreated mental illnesses impose on individuals, communities, and our systems of justice, healthcare, industry and education are considerable and abiding.

Opportunities

- » *As individuals, we must be willing to educate ourselves and others about the importance of mental health and mental illness without judgment, fear or stigma.*
- » *Continue to support the scientific exploration and understanding of mental health.*
- » *Collaborate as individuals, communities, health providers and public agencies to ensure the fundamental components of effective mental health services, including integrated community-based services, continuity of providers and treatments, family support services and culturally sensitive services.*

Mental Health References

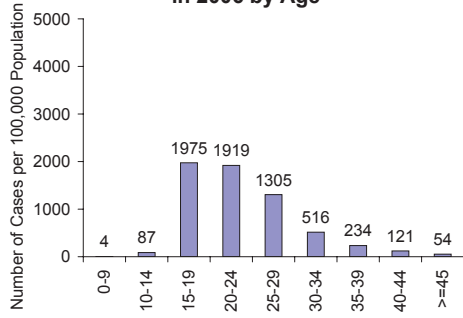
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2. Pratt LA, Ford DE, Crum RM, Armenian HK, Gallo JJ, Eaton WW. Depression, psychotropic medication, and risk of myocardial infarction. Prospective data from the Baltimore ECA follow-up. Circulation 1996;94:3123-9. Kessler RC, Chiu WT, Demler O, Walters EE. Prevalence, severity, and comorbidity of twelve-month DSM-IV disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication (NCS-R). Archives of General Psychiatry, 2005 Jun;62(6):617-27.
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Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

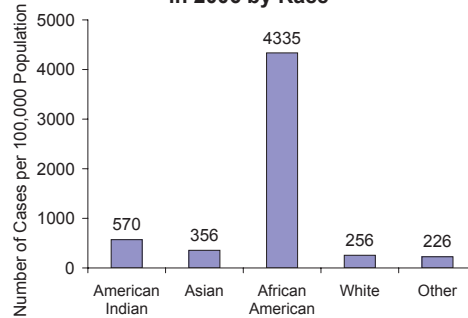
Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are infections that are spread from person to person through unprotected oral, vaginal, or anal sex. STIs include chlamydia, gonorrhea, genital herpes and syphilis.

- The incidence of STIs has been increasing in Dane County since 2002. The age groups most affected by STIs are 15-24 year olds. This is a concern as STIs can have lifelong consequences for reproductive and overall health.

Incidence of STIs Reported in Dane County in 2006 by Age



Incidence of STIs Reported in Dane County in 2006 by Race



Opportunities

- » *STIs and HIV can be prevented through abstinence; consistent and correct condom use; reducing the number of sexual partners; and limiting alcohol and drug use.*
- » *If someone uses needles for drug injection, seek treatment to stop or use a needle exchange service, but do not share needles or equipment.*
- » *If you are at risk for STIs and HIV, get tested and encourage your sexual partners to also get tested.*

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

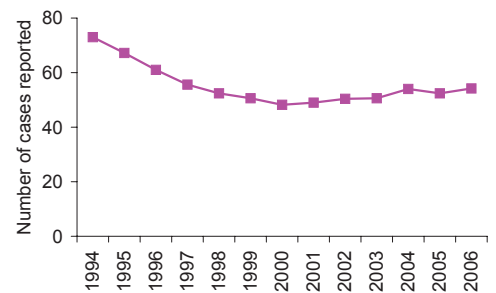
HIV is also transmitted through unprotected oral, vaginal, or anal sex. In addition, HIV is spread through sharing needles used for injecting drugs.

- The number of HIV infections has been relatively stable over the past five years. Throughout the history of HIV in Dane County, the leading high-risk population has been men who have sex with men (MSM). This remains the same through 2006, with 43.8% of new cases being among MSM.

Disparities in STIs and HIV - a Priority for PHMDC

In Dane County, STIs disproportionately affect African American individuals. The causes of observed disparities are complex and only partially defined, but are thought to include social and economic factors, access to care, and differences in sexual networks between different ethnic groups in the United States. A second concern is that HIV is disproportionately affecting African American and Hispanic populations, with 20.3% and 10.9% of the new cases, respectively.

HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in Dane County (5 Year Moving Average)



Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) is a contagious disease that occurs primarily in the lungs. Most people who have TB infection (called latent TB infection, or LTBI) never actually develop active TB disease and can take medication to prevent this from happening.

- In Dane County, incidence of TB has ranged from 1.6 to 3.3 cases per 100,000 people over the past 5 years, which is higher than the national goal of 1 case per 1 million for TB elimination. Most of those cases were contracted from somewhere outside the U.S.
- In 2005, PHMDC provided medications to over 300 people with LTBI, 81% of whom completed their medications. This is a key service provided by PHMDC, which also provides TB skin tests for people at risk for TB infection.

Opportunities

- » *TB is a truly global disease; over one third of the world's population is infected. Globalization, migration, and increased international travel are all contributing factors. If you suspect that you might be infected with TB, get a TB test and, if necessary, take medications for latent TB infection.*
- » *For people with active TB disease, PHMDC ensures they take their medication and stay isolated until they are no longer infectious. We also work with community partners to help arrange resources for people who are in isolation.*

