

New York State Health Assessment 2018

Prepared the 15th day of February 2018

**Amended and published in its entirety this 1st day of October 2018 by the New York State
Department of Health**

INTRODUCTION

A health assessment is “a systematic examination of the health status indicators for a given population”¹ that is used to identify factors that contribute to health status and health challenges, and identify assets that can be used to improve population health.

To develop this 2018 assessment, the New York State Department of Health reviewed the state’s demographic profile, the population’s health status, and assessed progress in meeting the goals and objectives established in the Prevention Agenda 2013-2018.

A multitude of data sources were analyzed including information from birth, death and hospital records, program statistics, U.S. Census data and national survey data. Statistics from these sources were analyzed at different geographic levels such as state, region and county as well as by socioeconomic factors including race/ethnicity, gender, age, disability status and income. Both historical and current data were reviewed to identify progress made as well as areas for improvement in public health, including emerging threats such as the opioid crisis and water contamination in New York State. These data are provided in the chapter entitled **Description of Population Demographics and General Health Status**, along with a summary of progress to date in meeting the measurable objectives described in the Prevention Agenda 2013-2018.

Programs across the Department of Health, the New York State Office of Mental Health and the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services collaborated to generate reports that detailed contributing causes of state health challenges and state assets to address pressing health issues. These documents are summarized in chapters entitled **Contributing Causes of Health Challenges**, and **the Summary of State Assets**.

The Prevention Agenda has been the blueprint for local collaborative community health improvement efforts by New York State’s nonprofit hospitals and local health departments and their partners. Progress to date on this local planning is described in the chapter **Local Collaborative Planning**.

The findings from these chapters have been presented and shared with the [Ad Hoc Committee to Lead the Prevention Agenda](#), a committee charged with developing the framework and specifics of the Prevention Agenda by the New York State Public Health and Health Planning Council.

¹ Public Health Accreditation Board, Acronyms and Glossary of Terms Version 1.5. Adopted December 2013

The information was presented at meetings of the Ad Hoc group between February and May 2018, and used to identify five priority areas for 2019-2024, as well as several cross cutting principles including promoting health across all policies and healthy aging approaches. The work done by the Ad Hoc Committee to develop strategies to address the state's health needs and issues is described in the New York State Health Improvement Plan.

Obtaining Stakeholder Feedback and Summary of Feedback

The Ad Hoc Committee to Lead New York's State Health Improvement Plan and the Department of Health coordinated a process to obtain input from stakeholders. Committee members conducted meetings with stakeholders to present the Description of Population Demographics and General Health Status chapters of the State Health Assessment, as well as to obtain feedback on the 2013-2018 Prevention Agenda. Utilizing detailed surveys and additional correspondence, stakeholders provided key feedback on how to strengthen the State Health Assessment and shape the 2019-2024 Prevention Agenda. Specifically, input was sought on the proposed priorities and focus areas for the next planning cycle, as well as ensuring continued involvement of stakeholders in designing and implementing interventions. A summary of Stakeholder Feedback is described in the chapter entitled **Stakeholder Feedback**.