

Introduction – New York State Health Assessment 2012

The purpose of a state health assessment is to describe the health status of the state's population, identify factors that contribute to health status and health challenges, and identify assets that can be used to improve population health.¹

To develop this 2012 assessment, DOH reviewed the state's demographic profile and population health status and assessed progress in meeting the goals and objectives established in the Prevention Agenda toward the Healthiest State 2008-12. Various 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. These data are provided in the chapter entitled **Description of Population Demographics and General Health Status**.

In addition, staff examined progress to date in meeting the measurable objectives described in the Prevention Agenda 2008-12. Staff also drafted progress reports that detailed contributing causes of state health challenges and state assets to address health issues. These documents are summarized in chapters entitled **Progress to Date on Prevention Agenda 2008, Contributing Causes of Health Challenges, and Summary of State Assets**

All of these materials were shared with the Ad Hoc Committee to Lead the Prevention Agenda 2013, a committee charged with developing the Prevention Agenda 2013 by the State Public Health and Health Planning Council. The information was presented at meetings of the Ad Hoc group between January and June, 2012, and used to identify five priority areas for 2013-2017. The work done by the Ad Hoc Committee to develop the plan is described in the State Health Improvement Plan.

Process for Obtaining Stakeholder Feedback and Summary of Feedback

The Ad Hoc Committee to Lead New York's State Health Improvement Plan coordinated a process to obtain input from stakeholders. Committee members conducted sessions with stakeholders to obtain feedback on the *2008-2012 Prevention Agenda* and how the process could be improved for the *2013-2017 Prevention Agenda*. Input was sought on the proposed priorities for the next planning cycle and how best to ensure continuing involvement of stakeholders in designing and implementing interventions. A brief summary of Stakeholder Feedback is described in the chapter entitled **Stakeholder Feedback**.

¹ Public Health Accreditation Board Standards and Measures, Standard 1.1 Accessed 12/1/2012