

# Imperial County

## Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Community Profile 2017-18

### Demographics

#### Our Community

Total Population <sup>1</sup> .....	183,154
Total Population, African American .....	691
Total Population, American Indian/ Alaskan Natives .....	1,840
Total Population, Asian/Pacific Islander .....	2,714
Total Population, Hispanic .....	148,463
Total Population, White .....	24,736
Total Live Births <sup>2</sup> .....	3,068

#### Our Mothers and Babies

% of women delivering a baby who received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester of their pregnancy <sup>2</sup> .....	53.4%
% of births covered by Medi-Cal <sup>2</sup> .....	55.5%
% of women ages 18-64 without health insurance <sup>3</sup> .....	26.7%
% of women giving birth to a second child within 24 months of a previous pregnancy * .....	35%
% live births less than 37 weeks gestation <sup>2</sup> .....	8.0%
Gestational diabetes per 1,000 females age 15-44 .....	5.1
% of female population 18-64 living in poverty (0-200% FPL) <sup>3</sup> .....	53.8%
Substance use diagnosis per 1,000 hospitalizations of pregnant women* .....	7.9
Unemployment Rate <sup>4</sup> .....	27.1

#### Our Children and Teens

Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 births (ages 15-19) <sup>2</sup> .....	47.1
Motor vehicle injury hospitalizations per 100,000 children age 0-146 .....	10.3
% of children, ages 0-18 years living in poverty (0-200% FPL) <sup>3</sup> .....	63.6%
Mental health hospitalizations per 100,000 age 15-24* .....	613.2
Children in Foster Care per 1,000 children <sup>5</sup> .....	5.5
Substance abuse hospitalization per 100,000 aged 15-24* .....	353.0

Data sources: <sup>1</sup> CA Dept. of Finance population estimates for Year 2015, January 2013; <sup>2</sup> CA Birth Statistical Master Files 2011-2013 Annual Average, 3 year average; <sup>3</sup> California Health Interview Survey, 2014; <sup>4</sup> [State of California, Employment Development Department, February 2017](#); <sup>5</sup> [Data from CA Child Welfare Indicators Project, UC Berkeley Point in Time Jul 2015](#); <sup>6</sup> [California Department of Public Health, Safe and Active Communities Branch](#); \*Data carried over from the Community Profile 2015-2016. Not updated.

### About Our Community – Health Starts Where We Live, Learn, Work, and Play

1. Geography: Imperial County is a unique rural community located in the southeast corner of California, bordered by Riverside and San Diego Counties, State of Arizona, and Mexico. It covers 4,176 square miles of desert land with about 1,000 square miles dedicated to irrigated farmland. The climate fluctuates throughout the year from very hot (<100, F) summer months to relatively mild and low temperatures in the fall, winter and spring.

2. Major industries and employers: According to the California Employment Development Department, the major industries and employers in Imperial County include: power plants (Calenergy Operating Co. & Vulcan-Bn Geothermal Power); government offices (County of Imperial, Calipatria State Prison, Centinela State Prison, U.S. Border Patrol, & El Centro Naval Air Facility); hospitals & clinics (El Centro Regional Medical Center, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare & Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo, Inc.); schools (Imperial County Office of Education, Central Union High School, & Academic Services); distribution services (Imperial Irrigation District); casinos (Paradise Casino); sugar refiners (Spreckels Sugar Company Inc.); gypsum (United

States Gypsum); home centers (Home Depot); seeds & bulbs (Allstar Seed Company); & labor organizations & contractors ( 8 A Packing LLC & Jjall LLC).

3. Walkability and recreational areas: There are approximately 4 recreational facilities in Imperial County per 100,000 residents, and of the total population, 0.41% lives within 1/2 mile of a park. A total of 28% of adults engaged in regular walking in the past week, and 77% did not exercise in the past month. Sixty-two percent of children/teens were sedentary 2 or more hours on a typical weekday & only 23% of children ages 5-11 & 15% of teens 12-17 engaged in daily physical activity.

## **Health System – Health and Human Services for the MCAH Population**

Imperial County has 2 hospitals where women give birth: El Centro Regional Medical Center and Pioneers Memorial Hospital. Imperial County does not have CPSP providers at this time, but it does have 17 Denti-Cal providers for children. Local challenges to accessing medical, mental, dental and social services includes, but are not limited to, transportation and childcare services.

Local programs that address health and human services for the MCAH population, include, but are not limited to the following: Adolescent Family Life Program; Home Visiting Program; Perinatal Care Guidance Program; Cal-Learn; Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program; Planned Parenthood; Imperial County Children and Families First Commission; and Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo, Inc.

Public health issues that impact multiple MCAH population groups include, but are not limited to, access to healthcare services (medically under-served area, transportation barriers, etc.), chronic disease (obesity, diabetes, heart disease, asthma, etc.), socio-economic status (poverty, unemployment, etc.), and health behaviors (teen pregnancy, food insecurity, physical inactivity, etc.).

## **Health Status and Disparities for the MCAH Population**

Low socioeconomic status and high rates of unemployment and poverty impact access to health care, including access to early and adequate prenatal care. Those factors are also key to overweight and obesity in low-income and poor families: poorer neighborhoods lack grocery stores, farmers markets and have a greater number per capita of fast-food eateries which directly impact this population's ability to access healthy foods. Also, there are fewer parks and recreational facilities in disadvantaged neighborhoods, thus limiting their access to healthy and safe physical environments.

In 2015/2016, local key stakeholders, community members, and advocates convened to participate in its first comprehensive and collaborative Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Planning process. Currently, Imperial County is finalizing its Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) in which it will address community health problems in a more coordinated and resourceful way. This marks the beginning of a new era in Imperial County to help improve health outcomes in our community through the implementation strategies that are aligned with MCAH and other local efforts.