

Public Health Data Analysis in Rural Counties



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**Significant limitations in
number and applicability of
existing data sources for
measuring health status and
outcomes in rural jurisdictions**

**No internal epidemiology and
little capacity for local health
data collection and analysis**

Calaveras County





C-2
CALHOUN COUNTY
HEALTH SERVICE AGENCY
Bldg. - Pk. 8-1

CALHOUN COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1135590



Data Sources

- National
- State
- Local

National Data Sources

- CDC Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI)
- County Health Rankings – University of Wisconsin / RWJF

State Data Sources

CDPH Center for Health Statistics

Office of Vital Records (OVR) and Office of Health Information and Research (OHIR)

- Birth and death registries
- Automated Vital Statistics System (AVSS)

State Sources (Cont.)

- Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD)
- CalREDIE
- Immunization Registries – CAIR
 - *Calaveras County participates in RIDE.
Still not consolidated database

State Sources (Cont.)

- CDPH County Health Status Profiles
 - Age adjusted, county specific disease rates.
 - Rural counties with small populations may not achieve statistical significance in some measures*

*a lot of asterisks

State Sources (Cont.)

- California Health Interview Survey (CHIS)
 - 48,000 Californians in every county surveyed in 2013 and 2014
 - County specific data for 41 largest counties
 - Calaveras lumped into 6 county group

Program Specific Data Sets

- CD Reporting – CalREDIE
- Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES)
- Tobacco control programs
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed)
- Hospital Discharge data

Limitations of National and Statewide Data Sources

- Low population numbers may not reach statistical significance
- Placement into larger regional groups with often dissimilar counties

High Quality Local Data Sources for Rural Jurisdictions...

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Dignity Health
Mark Twain Medical Center



NO
PARKING
EXCEPT
FOR
EMERGENCY



Hospital Community Health Needs Assessments

- Required of tax-exempt hospitals as a result of the Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- By statute must take into account input from “persons who represent the broad interests of the community served by the hospital facility, including those with special knowledge of or expertise in public health.”

Community Transformation Grant Funding

- CA 4 Health Environmental Scan
 - Funding for local data collection and reporting.
 - Better understanding of burden of chronic disease, economic and racial/ethnic disparities in community.

Summary

- Rural counties have limited capacity for local health data collection and analysis.
- Rely more on state and federal public health partners.
- Limitations in ability to accurately understand and quantify the health status of our constituents.



New Melones Reservoir





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Photo: Calaveras Fairgrounds