ISSUE
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The Pool Center for Health Analytics

Pool Center
for Health Analytics
powered by Lehigh Valley Health Network

Strategic Vision

The Pool Center for Health Analytics (PCHA) focuses on community health issues, including Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and public health topics, to understand and drive measurable improvements in the health of the community.

PCHA engages and partners with community organizations to design modern analytics capabilities that deliver actionable data and analytics at the community level.

"The Pool Center for Health Analytics is an important partner to the Leonard Parker Pool Institute for Health. Timely and neighborhood-specific analysis of cross-cutting factors is critical to our success. It enables us to identify, measure and track key factors that drive health and in turn work collaboratively with others to improve measurably the healthy status of the Lehigh Valley."

- Edward F. Meehan
Executive Director
Leonard Parker Pool Institute for Health

2023 Pool Center for Health Analytics Portal

Updates:

Added Content for Social Vulnerabilities and Behavioral Health

Visit the new PCHA
Welcome Page

24+ SDOH and clinical health areas with data visualizations

PCHA built the technology foundation to define, collect, analyze, and share relevant community data to measure and support improvements in the health of the community and actively seeks opportunities to further deliver analytics value to partners.

Secure Login Enables Enhanced Data Sharing

Lehigh Valley Health Network has created a secure login feature that enables the sharing of anonymized health information between the Pool Center for Health Analytics and health care partners in the community.

One such agreement has been established between the Pool Center for Health Analytics and Community Services for Children (CSC) in Allentown as part of a broad effort to map a longitudinal education record among schoolchildren. A second agreement exists with Valley Health Partners Community Health Center. Both allow for the Pool Center for Health Analytics to receive certain data from its partners that will be included in its analytics and IT platforms.

PCHA partners, in turn, gain access to the Pool Center for Health Analytics' treasure trove of Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) data.

Such collaborations serve the Pool Center for Health Analytics overarching goal of further researching the Social Determinants of Health within the community, including the personal, social, economic, and environmental factors that influence health status, and to work with community, state and federal partners, both public and private, to create a superior regional community health surveillance system and to leverage this system to deliver measurable health improvement in the communities served.

What's Next at PCHA

The Pool Center for Health Analytics will host an interactive webinar for partners, community groups and the public on where to locate behavioral health-related services within the region on Thursday, May 25th, from noon to 1 p.m. To participate, go to: Pool Center Webinar May 25th

Spotlight Shines Brightly on Behavioral Health

Lehigh Valley Health Network is sourcing and sharing publicly available behavioral health data in the categories of Life Expectancy, Depression, Suicide, and Social Vulnerability.

Life expectancy is a term that encapsulates how individuals are influenced by a myriad of physical and behavioral factors, including clinical depression, anxiety and substance use, all of which impact suicide and mortality rates.

For example, the Pool Center for Health Analytics site details statistics such as suicide rates by Pennsylvania county per 10,000 population. They are Lehigh County – 5.0, Carbon County – 8.1, Schuylkill County – 6.8, Northampton County – 5.8, Monroe County – 4.9, Luzerne County – 7.1, and Lackawanna County – 6.2.

Further information will be made available as additional research is completed.

LVHN, United Way to Study Factors in Education

LVHN plans to publish data, in collaboration with the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, regarding social and economic conditions and their relationship to educational outcomes. Categories will include measures such as English proficiency, SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits, median household income, evictions, school enrollments, mental health and telehealth visits, and individuals living paycheck to paycheck.

Health Outcomes in Legislative Districts: A Tool for Policymakers

The Pool Center for Health Analytics team is working to make it possible for health information to be filtered based on legislative districts for the U.S. House of Representatives, Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Pennsylvania State Senate. The feature can make it possible for policymakers to see what outcomes are commonplace within their districts and precisely where those conditions are prevalent down to Census Tract level.

The Pool Center for Health Analytics team is working with the LVHN government affairs team to determine the specific use cases required for the function to ensure that the filter will work seamlessly upon its completion. The likely timeline for completion is by the end of the second quarter of 2023 barring any unforeseen complications.