State of the County Health Report
SOTCH 2014

Stokes County Health Dept/Family Health Center
1009 Main Street
Danbury, NC 27016
(336) 593-2400
http://www.co.stokes.nc.us/index.htm
Overview: Stokes County SOTCH Report

During the years between county community health assessments (CHA), county health departments conduct and provide an abbreviated State of the County Health report (SOTCH report). While the SOTCH report is intended as a quick overview of community health data rather than a comprehensive review of the priority.

Health issues identified during the 2012 CHA, can be found in this document. The priority areas identified in this report are guided by findings from the 2012 Community Health Assessment, SOTCH reports, community surveys, and state and local data. This report provides an annual review of the health of the community, tracks progress regarding health priorities and compares statistics. It also identifies new programs and partnerships in the community, as well as emerging issues that affect the health status of county residents.
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Demographics

• Predominately Rural County
  o Land area: 452 square miles
  o Water area: 4.0 square miles
  o Stokes County borders Surry County to the west, Rockingham County to the east, State of Virginia to the north, and Forsyth County to the south. (*Source: City Data*)

• 2012 Population Estimate: 46,588 (*Source: US Census Bureau*) *Please note this shows a decrease from the 2010 census*

• Employment:
  o As of November, 2014 Stokes County has a 5% unemployment rate (*Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics*)

• Poverty:
  o 17.8% persons living below poverty level in Stokes County vs. 18% in North Carolina in 2012. (*Source: US Census Bureau*)
Stokes County unemployment rate has decreased by 5.6% in 2014 from a high of 10 in 2009 during the economic downturn.

Source: US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics

Stokes County unemployment rate has decreased by 5.6% in 2014 from a high of 10 in 2009 during the economic downturn.

Source: US Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service
Poverty in Stokes County:

The poverty rate is still high in Stokes County even with a dramatic decrease of unemployment for 2009. One reason for the higher poverty level even with a low unemployment rate is that individuals may be working at lower paying jobs or part-time jobs.

Top 5 Health Concerns Identified by Community

*Source: Stokes County Community Health Assessment 2012*

1. Cancer
2. Diabetes
3. Heart Disease
4. School Violence
5. Obesity/Overweight
Access to Health Care
Source: 2012 UNC Sheps Center for Health Services Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Professionals per 10,000 population</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Care Physicians</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentists</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacists</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td>32.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse Practitioners</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Nurse Midwives</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician Assistants</td>
<td>.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leading Causes of Death (all ages) Mortality Rates 2013
Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Diseases of heart</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cerebrovascular diseases</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chronic lower respiratory diseases</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>All other unintentional injuries</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Diabetes mellitus</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Influenza and pneumonia</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Motor vehicle injuries</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All other causes (Residual)</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Identified Unhealthy Behaviors
Source: Community Health Assessment 2012

1. Drug Abuse
2. Alcohol Abuse
3. Lack of exercise
4. Smoking/tobacco use
5. Poor eating habits

Top 5 Community Issues Identified by Community
Source: Community Health Assessment 2012

1. Unemployment
2. Low income/poverty
3. Availability of health services
4. Lack of/inadequate health insurance
5. Positive activities for teens
Identified Health Priorities

- Mental Health
  - Suicide Prevention
- Oral Health
  - Smile Program

Mental Health Initiatives Current Activities
2013

- Established active Suicide Prevention Task Force of Stokes County--September, 2013
- Established Crisis Intervention Team Members in Stokes County--November, 2013
Center Point Mental health providing Mental Health First Aid Training to targeted individuals.
  - School teacher
  - Counselors
  - School Resource Officers
  - Medical
  - First Responders

Center Point provided Mental Health Training to all Stokes County Schools and their counselors during 2014.

Source: 2011 County Health Data Book, NC State Center for Health Statistics

![Age-adjusted Suicide Deaths per 100,000 population, 2007-2011](chart.png)

Source: 2011 County Health Data Book, NC State Center for Health Statistics
*When compared to similar counties throughout NC, Stokes County continues to show one of the highest suicide death rates in the state.*

**Age-adjusted Suicide Deaths per 100,000 population, 2012-2013**

**Source:** 2012-2013 County Health Data Book, NC State Center for Health Statistics

**Suicide Rates per Township 2008-2014**

**Source:** Stokes County Register of Deeds Office
Oral Health Initiatives Current Activities 2013

- Stokes County Health Department/Family Health Center has partnered with Smile Program that provides limited dental services to children. The Smile Program is a team of local dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants who are devoted to the importance of outreach dentistry and serving our most vulnerable children in the need of dental care. Every member of the dental team is locally a licensed clinician.

- Research funding available to assist crisis dental care for the uninsured or underinsured.

Source: 2011 County Health Data Book, NC State Center for Health Statistics

Number of Dentists/Physicians per 10,000 Residents comparison to Peer Counties, 2007-2012
Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Destination by Design has been commissioned by the Appalachian Regional Health District as part of a Community Transformation Grant to conduct a 10 county regional plan to promote active living by improving the built environment.

Active living strategy has been taken to the next step in Stokes County by a community collaborative effort to create a comprehensive land use plan. The Stokes County Comprehensive Land Use Plan will examine planning needs for the next 20 years related to land development, transportation, recreation, economic development, tourism, and infrastructure. All planning requests that surround the comprehensive land use plan will have a health focus intent.

The Stokes County Land Use Plan is currently in the final stages of approval.

The Stokes 2035 Vision Plan is important because it will:

1. Develop a vision for Stokes County’s future
2. Establish realistic priorities for how to allocate resources
3. Identify appropriate areas for appropriate types of growth
4. Encourage community empowerment & action
5. Help communicate a vision to grant funding agencies that can help fund improvements

8 Key Areas This Plan Will Address:

- Economic Development
- Land Use
- Public Infrastructure
- Health
- Transportation
- Public Services
- Environment
- Recreation
Emerging Issues

**Affordable Care Act**

- On March 23, 2010, President Obama signed the Affordable Care Act. The law puts in place comprehensive health insurance reforms that will roll out over four years and beyond. (Source: Healthcare.gov)

- Estimated 6,000 citizens of Stokes County will not qualify for any type of insurance under the Affordable Care Act. Since January of 2014 when the ACA started, Stokes County Health Department has seen a 21% increase in clients for FY 2013/2014. 4% of this increase is contributed to the new prenatal clinic, which began in July 2013.

- With the possibly that NC will expand Medicaid/Medicare, how this will affect the Stokes County Health Department/Family Health Center remains to be seen.

**HealthNet Grant**

- HealthNet grant supports communities’ efforts to work collectively to share resources in finding “medical homes” for the uninsured population. Through the HealthNet grant, a low-income or uninsured person has simple access to available health care services in his or her area. (Source: NC DHHS)
The HealthNet Grant has been reduced to $48,900 from previously $125,000 per year. The reduction in funding resulted in the loss of a primary care physician. This is the 7th year for this grant and it was the primary source of revenue to help run our Primary Care Clinic.

This reduction created a huge loss for the primary care clinic at Stokes County Health Department/Family Health Center. However, with the new managed care program offered through the HealthNet Grant, there is a great potential in recovering from this lost as the system is basically a per member per month payment for individuals with specific medical conditions enrolled in the program. Funding is currently Capitated at $48,900.

**Farmers Market Initiative**

- Healthy Eating Strategy-Grand Opening of new market!
  - Stokes Future Farmers Market
  - The Community Transformation Grant purchased tents and tables in support of the Farmers Market and in addition assisted local “Mom and Pop” community stores in obtaining display cases to help promote healthier foods.

- Located at Pioneer Community Hospital of Stokes, 1570 North Carolina Hwy 8, Danbury, NC 27016 (Open Fridays 2-6pm)
Environmental Health

Stokes County Environmental Health Division enforces state laws and rules pertaining to food sanitation, waste water disposal, private drinking water wells and other correlated issues. The number of inspections include food service establishments, tattoo artists, day care centers, school cafeterias, schools, and public swimming pools, etc…. The number of new permits issued includes food service establishments, tattoo artists, public swimming pools, etc… and food vendors that choose to set up at festivals.

Currently the Environmental Health Section is understaff and the average waiting time for new wells and septic inspections is approximately 4-6 weeks.

One area of interest in Environmental Health was the number of Meth Labs found. For FY 2013/2014, Stokes County had 8 meth labs found in residential areas compared to 3 from the previous year. The inspection of these homes are very time consuming and costly to the county with literally no formalized training for EH Staff or health department staff in general.
Stokes County Health Department
Stokes Family Health Center
P.O. Box 187
Danbury, NC 27016
(336) 593-2400

Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-5:30 pm

Friday
8:00 am- 5:00 pm

Our address:
1009 Main Street
PO Box 187
Danbury, NC 27016

Telephone:
(336)593-2400
Fax: (336)593-9361

Health Dept. Director: Scott Lenhart (336)593-2435
Health Educator: Tammy Martin (336)593-1229
Environmental Health: (336)593-2403
Child Health: (336)593-2412
Family Planning: (336)593-2420
WIC: (336)593-2402
Home Health: (336)593-2401

King Office:
102 Hartgrove Rd.
King, NC 27021
Telephone: (336)985-2727
Fax: (336)985-2654

WIC available Tuesdays and Wednesdays 8:30-5:00

To make an appointment for either clinic please call:
(336)593-2400

To report a communicable disease outbreak, an environmental health emergency or a public health threat after hours, weekends or holidays please call 1-877-514-9259 or dial 9-1-1.

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