

PRESS RELEASE

April 10, 2018

DC Healthy People 2020 report update shows progress towards improving the health of District residents

DC Healthy People 2020 Action Plan and Online Dashboard Released: A Shared Community Agenda for the City

CONTACT: Tom Lalley, 202-724-7481, tom.lalley@dc.gov

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, DC Health released the [DC Healthy People 2020 Annual Report & Action Plan 2017-2019](#) and an accompanying [online data dashboard](#). The report shows progress towards improving the health of District residents using Leading Health Indicator data points. It also highlights priority actions underway that support the implementation of the [DC Healthy People 2020 Framework](#), a shared community agenda that helps guide the city's multi-sector and collaborative efforts to improve population health in the District.

The report released today shows that:

- 50% of leading health indicators have improved,
- 20% have gotten worse,
- 20% have not changed,
- 5% of targets have been met and,
- 5% have no data.

For example, diabetes management and childhood vaccination rates have improved towards the 2020 targets. The District has even reached some of its goals early such as reducing early initiation of tobacco use among adolescents. However, some indicators such as the injury death rate and the proportion of adolescents aged 12-17 who experience major depressive episodes, have gotten worse.

“It is our hope that stakeholders and community members will use the Framework and this report to support shared goals, facilitate cross-sector collaboration and to align our work to achieve health equity,” said Dr. LaQuandra Nesbitt, director of the DC Department of Health.

In 2016, the Framework was released following a multisector collaborative process that prioritized 150 health outcome objectives to monitor over time and

recommended 85 evidence-based strategies to achieve the biggest population health impact.

The District supports the Framework's goals through numerous policies and programs. For example, to decrease the proportion of people living in poverty, the mayor's FY19 budget includes investments in affordable housing, job training, support for small businesses and education.

DC Healthy People 2020 is a living framework that involves continuous engagement with stakeholders and community members to update progress on 2020 targets, identify emerging issues, and ensure priorities continue to align with data trends and community needs.

###

The District of Columbia Department of Health promotes health, wellness and equity, across the District, and protects the safety of residents, visitors and those doing business in our nation's capital.