



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members Board of Health
DATE:	August 15, 2023
SUBJECT:	Health Check Update Bulletin #2 - Progress Update (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, MD, MHSc, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health Public Health Services
SIGNATURE:	

This communication provides the Board of Health with an update on the renewal of the population health assessment report, “Health Check” and informs members of our continued intent to share status updates with community stakeholders through bulletins.

Background on Health Check: A Population Health Assessment

Boards of health in Ontario are mandated to provide population health information including social determinants of health, health inequities, and other relevant sources to the public, community partners, and other health care providers.¹ To support this effort, Hamilton Public Health Services is updating a key population health assessment report, “Health Check.” This report was last updated in 2018. It is anticipated that the updated report will be publicly released in early 2024.

Approach for Stakeholder Communication

Over fifty stakeholders have been identified that may be interested in the results of this report. Public Health will keep stakeholders informed of the process through a quarterly Health Check Update Bulletin. Update Bulletin #2 will be released by email to stakeholders on August 15, 2023 (Appendix “A” to Board of Health Communication Update: (2023-08-15) Health Check Update Bulletin #2 - Progress Update).

¹ Ministry of Health (2021). Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability.

https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph_standards/

Overview of Population Health Assessment

Population health assessment, including a comprehensive understanding of health inequities, allows Hamilton Public Health Services to identify the population health needs of the Hamilton community. Population health needs are typically longstanding issues that require many years and collective action by multiple partners and at multiple levels to address; public health is one of many contributors.

Should you require further information, please contact Catherine Holtz, Manager, Epidemiology & Evaluation Program, Public Health Services at Ext. 6708 or at catherine.holtz@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to Board of Health Communication Update: (2023-08-15) Health Check Update Bulletin #2 - Progress Update



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HEALTH CHECK UPDATE # 2

AUGUST 15, 2023



Data analysis is complete for Hamilton Public Health Services' update of the population health assessment report, Health Check. The report will be publicly available in 2024.

Project Background

Public Health has completed data analysis, including the equity analysis, for Health Check 2023. The product planning and report writing stages have now begun. The report aims to identify Hamilton's community health needs, specifically those areas that public health and its community partners can work to improve related to population health risk factors and outcomes, and includes the following four broad components:

- Sociodemographic Profile
- Health Outcome Profile
- Risk Factor Profile
- Preliminary Pandemic Impact Assessment

Selected Results

Early results indicate that Hamilton residents born between 2015 and 2017 may not live as long as Ontarians without early, effective preventive efforts. Hamilton residents could expect to live to be 81.3 years old on average, over a year shorter than Ontarians who are expected to live to 82.6 years on average.¹

Similarly, Hamilton residents experienced higher rates of preventable deaths from 2018 to 2020 than Ontarians on average even after differences in age structure in the two populations were considered. An average, 933 Hamiltonians under the age of 75, die every year due to preventable deaths such as cancer, heart disease, infectious diseases and injuries.² This number could be reduced through health promotion and disease prevention policies, programs and services provided by public health and other community partners.

¹ Statistics Canada. Table 13-10-0389-01 Life expectancy, at birth and at age 65, by sex, three-year average, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions and peer groups.

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1310038901>

² Statistics Canada. Table 13-10-0753-01 Premature and potentially avoidable mortality, three-year period, Canada, provinces, territories, health regions (2018 boundaries) and peer groups. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1310075301>

Status Update

Current Project Status	Milestones Achieved	Upcoming Work
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing detailed data tables. • Planning summary report and community engagement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed data analysis. • Distributed the first Bulletin to stakeholders in April 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense-making of information. • Finalize report for public release early in 2024.

Contact for Questions

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This document is available in alternate format upon request.