



### Updates from Michigan's Environmental Public Health Tracking Program

### August 2016

### MiTracking data portal under construction



The MiTracking data portal is under construction! The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) hired Kunz, Leigh and Associates (KL&A), based in Okemos, Michigan, to

develop the data portal. Development began in April, with the anticipated "go-live" date tentatively scheduled for late October.

Currently, MDHHS is working closely with KL&A to design a portal with queries that are easy to execute, and will display data accurately in useful tables, charts, and maps. The <u>Agile</u> <u>Software Development</u> method is in place, allowing for daily interaction between KL&A and MDHHS to ensure oversight and collaboration throughout the process. Some Michigan-specific measures and data have already been uploaded into the test portal. MDHHS has tested certain components of the portal and will continue to do so as development proceeds.

Beta testing will begin in late summer or early fall. Members of the Advisory Committee and our Stakeholders are invited to participate. Beta testing can be done from your desk and will not require travel to our office. Anyone who would like to participate can contact the MiTracking

Program Manager, Jill Roos, roosj@michigan.gov. Your review and recommendations will be most appreciated!



## **Tentative timeline**

The following is a tentative MiTracking data portal completion timeline:

- Summer Fall: Beta testing.
- > Fall: Beta testing is complete.
- October: MiTracking data portal is finalized in the test environment.
- > Late October: MiTracking data portal goes live.

# Michigan-specific health and environmental data

Last spring, MiTracking submitted datasets for two Nationally Consistent Data and Measures (NCDM) content areas to the CDC National Tracking Program. These datasets include childhood lead poisoning and community water data. The data will be available on the National Tracking Network in the fall of 2016.

The childhood lead poisoning data include:

- annual blood lead levels for children younger than 6 years of age for the years 2000 - 2014, and
- blood lead levels for children tested for lead before their 3rd birthday by birth cohort for the years 2000 - 2011.

The community water data include:

 distribution of community water supplies by mean trihalomethane (TTHM) and haloacetic acids (HAA5) concentractions

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by guarter and year and maximum concentrations by year for the years 2012 -2015.

- distribution of people served by mean trihalomethane (TTHM) and haloacetic acids (HAA5) concentrations per guarter and year and maximum concentrations by year for the years 2012 - 2015, and
- mean concentration of TTHM/HAA5 by community water supply by year for the years 2012 - 2015.

Data for Michigan-specific hospitalizations for asthma, carbon monoxide poisoning, heart attack, and heat stress illness from 2001 - 2012 were submitted last fall and are now available on the CDC National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network.

## Air quality data and awareness

Ground-level ozone can be harmful to health and the environment. Ozone forms when pollutants from cars, trucks, factories, and other sources come into contact with heat and sunlight. Ozone levels are usually higher in the summer months and can adversely affect air quality and respiratory health.

Michigan-specific ozone data are available on the National Tracking network and will be available on the MiTracking portal later this year.

Ozone data can be used to

- show the number of days with maximum 8-hour average ozone concentrations over the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS),
- show the number of person-days with maximum 8-hour average ozone concentrations over the NAAQS, and
- provide ozone awareness and air quality alerts to the public.

You can see the air quality index and receive ozone alerts from Michigan EnviroFlash.



## Heat stress illness data and awareness



Did you know that, on average, over 150 Michigan residents are hospitalized for heat-stress illness, and many more are likely hospitalized because heat made chronic donditions like asthma

worse? Michigan-specific data on heat stress hospitalizations and mortality are now available on the National Tracking Network, with 2012 the most recent year of available data.

Heat stress data can be used to

- identify at-risk populations and areas with high risk for heat-associated death,
- understand trends in heat-related deaths over time. and
- provide heat stress awareness and alerts to the public.

Heat illness preventions tips are available from the CDC.

#### Comments or concerns? Contact us!

MiTracking has a new email address, mdhhs-mitracking@michigan.gov.

Or, contact one of us directly. Note: our office has moved and we have new phone numbers.

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Visit our MiTracking website.