

miTracking

Michigan Environmental
Public Health Tracking

October 2021

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Portal News

Updated Data

- [Birth Defects \(all indicators - updated years through 2017\)](#)
- [Childhood Lead Exposure \(updated years through 2020 & zip-code geographies for all years\)](#)
- [Drug Poisoning \(Overdose\) Mortality \(updated years: 2019\)](#)

New Data

- [Heat-related Illness Emergency Department Visits](#)
- [Opioid-involved Drug Overdose Mortality](#)
- [Social Vulnerability Index via CDC data visualization](#)

Partner Highlights

Michigan Overdose Data to Action (MODA) - New Data and Dashboard

Building strong relationships is part of what makes MiTracking so effective. One such partnership is with [Michigan Overdose Data to Action \(MODA\)](#). MODA brings surveillance and prevention efforts together to decrease rates of drug misuse, substance use disorder, fatal and nonfatal overdoses, and drug-use related health risks. From 1999-2019, the number of drug poisoning deaths among Michigan residents has grown five times higher. MODA's work is now more important than ever. Access to drug poisoning (overdose) data is crucial for overdose prevention programs to make data-driven decisions. MiTracking began a partnership with MODA in 2019 when drug poisoning deaths data were added to the [MiTracking Data Portal](#). Opioid-involved deaths data were recently added. MODA also has a new [dashboard](#) where you can find more data. MODA hopes by providing overdose data through MiTracking and the dashboard to take the idea of evidence-based work to the next level.

Michigan Overdose Data to Action Dashboard

Home

Explore Data

Current Trends

Reports

Technical Notes

Frequently Asked Questions

If you are in crisis, or know someone who needs help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline NOW at: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

[Click here for information on programs and resources to prevent overdose and treat substance use disorder.](#)



Communication Corner

NEW Embedding Visual – Sharable Resources via CDC

MiTracking now hosts a Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) embedded data visual. SVI uses 15 U.S. census variables. These variables help local officials identify communities that may need support before, during, or after disasters. The SVI brings together data that are important to understanding and addressing environmental justice issues. Environmental justice is a complex issue and these data are only a small piece. MiTracking worked with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to add this feature to our [Populations Characteristics content page](#).

If you are interested in hosting a CDC embedded data visualization on your website, you can find the code in a Tracking Network [Data Explorer](#) search results. In the results next to the green “About Data” button, there is an icon. Clicking on the icon will show different ways to share search information including the embedding code.

CDC Heat Tracker

This summer, CDC released a new version of the [Heat & Health Tracker](#). The Tracker lets you explore the heat wave forecast for your county, track weekly cases of heat-related illness across the country, and find guidance and resources. The Tracker is a useful tool to see how extreme heat affects where you live.

You can find Michigan’s historical and current heat-related illness data on the [MiTracking Data Portal](#).

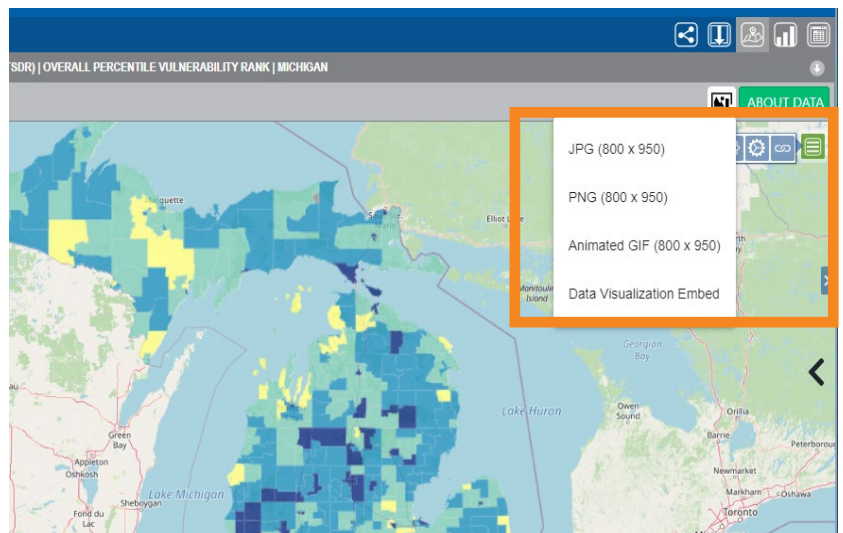
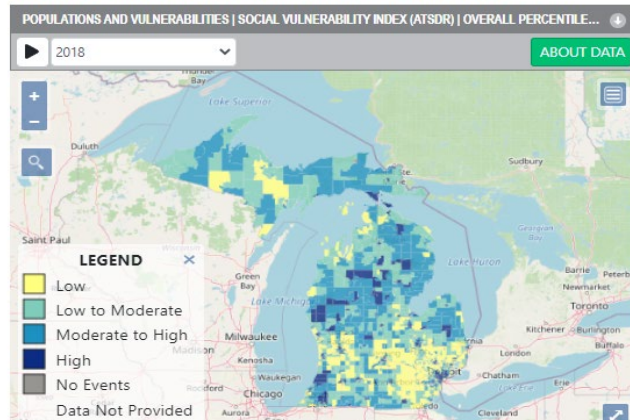
Population Characteristics



A population is a group of people within a certain area or in a specific group. Population characteristics are important to consider when describing how disease or illness affects people in a community. Certain factors, like your sex, age, or income, can influence your health and your risk during a public health emergency. The same is true for populations.

Understanding a population is very important for public health programs and the study of the spread or pattern of sickness in a group of people (epidemiological studies). Knowing a population’s characteristics can help public health professionals understand the relationship between environmental conditions and related diseases.¹

Population characteristics data are available on the MiTracking Data Portal.



MiTracking Team

Meet Jamie

- **MiTracking role:** *Public Health Consultant*
- **How long have you been with MiTracking?** *3.5 years*
- **Favorite MiTracking dataset:** *Ticks! I have learned so much about ticks from this dataset, corresponding content page, and from our [Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Disease \(EZID\)](#) partners.*
- **Why Public Health Education?** *It allows me to bring creativity and innovation to my work while helping and educating others on health.*
- **How do you spend your non-work time?** *I have 2 small children, so we spend a lot of time outside on various adventures.*



Announcements

Virtual Presentations

MiTracking is a great online resource covering a range of environmental health topics. We are now offering VIRTUAL presentations and trainings on how to use the portal. If you are interested in a FREE training, email us at mdhhs-mitracking@michigan.gov. Check out our [brochure](#).

Query Basics Tutorial

MiTracking has updated the [Query Basics Tutorial](#), which helps you learn to use the MiTracking data portal. You can find the tutorial and other helpful links on the [MiTracking Resources page](#).

Tracking Week 2021

This year's annual [Tracking Week](#) campaign was held from July 12-16. The theme "Powered by Tracking" highlighted a range of topics from Unique Data to Expanding Partnerships to Environmental Justice.

Questions about COVID-19?

Visit [MDHHS COVID-19 webpage](#) for frequently asked questions, how to find testing sites, and information on "Mask up, Michigan" and MI Safe Start. For additional questions, call the COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136 or email COVID19@michigan.gov.



mdhhs-mitracking@michigan.gov



1-800-648-6942



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