

Population Health Outcomes Tip Sheet

August 2019

Population Health Outcomes Reporting is a mandatory component of reaccreditation. Reports received from health departments will be used to develop a national database of health outcomes and their associated objectives that accredited health departments monitor. The reporting has been designed to begin to document how the ongoing work of maintaining accreditation can contribute to better health outcomes. While submitting outcomes is required, what you submit will not be used for, or have any impact on, the decision concerning the continued accreditation status of the health department. PHAB uses Dr. David Kindig’s model of population health outcomes as the organizing framework for this requirement (<http://www.improvingpopulationhealth.org/blog/what-is-population-health.html>).

Population health outcomes are submitted at the same time as reaccreditation documentation (<https://www.phaboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/PHABGuideReacc.pdf>). Once you begin the documentation submission phase, please use the “Outcomes” subtab under the “ReDoc Submission” tab in e-PHAB.

- **Identify all topics the health department is tracking.** (You are not required to provide measurable objectives for all those topics.)
- **Select 5-10 objectives to report on in more detail.**

Health departments should be thoughtful about the objectives selected for detailed reporting since these objectives will be updated in their Annual Reports, post reaccreditation. Although you will have the ability to remove an objective and add a replacement during the Annual Report process, we encourage the selection of objectives for continued monitoring. In addition to providing updates on 5-10 objectives in Section III of the Annual Report, health departments will be asked to provide a narrative about one of the objectives describing collaborative work to address the objective and health equity in that area, as well as progress towards the target (including any short-term measures to monitor progress).

The table below provides additional details about the fields that will be completed in e-PHAB during reaccreditation.

Reaccreditation Public Health Outcomes	
Field	Guidance
Broad Area	<p>Based on the health outcomes and determinants of health in the Kindig model, PHAB has identified the following seven Broad Areas—or general categories—for the objectives you will be reporting. An example objective is provided for each broad area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mortality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce the diabetes-related mortality rate • Health Related Quality of Life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce diabetes prevalence among the African American population • Preventive Health Care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase access to nutrition counseling among individuals with diabetes • Individual Behavior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase the proportion of adults who engage in aerobic physical activity of at least moderate intensity for at least 150 minutes/week • Social Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reduce violent crime rates • Physical Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase number of miles of biking/walking trails in community • Genetics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase access to genetic screening
Topic	<p>Each broad area contains several topics. Although you can add topics, you are encouraged to select the listed topic that is the closest match. For example, it is not necessary to add a topic for “adolescent smoking” because you can use the existing “tobacco use” topic. The list of</p>

	topics in e-PHAB can be found in the accredited health department portal. It will be updated periodically.
Data Being Tracked	In e-PHAB, you will see each Broad Area with a list of its corresponding Topics. You will place a check in the “Data Being Tracked” for <u>all</u> Topics the health department is monitoring. Data being tracked refers to all data the health department uses to evaluate the health of the community. They may be collected from other local, state, federal, and national sources. You should check the boxes for ALL relevant topics; you will NOT be asked to provide detailed objectives about all the topics you select.
Data Reported	You must provide 5-10 detailed objectives. To add an objective in e-PHAB, click on the hyperlinked topic. A pop-up window with additional fields will appear. Once you complete this information, the box in the “Data Reported” column will automatically be checked.
Objective(s)	The objective describes what the health department/community wants to achieve. What is our end goal? For example, “To reduce obesity in our community”.
Target	What is our SMART objective? SMART objectives are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound. For example, “Reduce the prevalence of obesity, BMI \geq 30, among adults, aged 18 and older, in our community to 30% by 2020.”
Baseline Data & Year	When did the community begin identifying and monitoring data on this topic? Include data on the topic from that year. Baseline data sources and measurement should be comparable across years.
Most Recent Data & Year	What are the most recent data available? For example, in 2018, 33% of adults had a BMI \geq 30.
Data Source	From where did you gather the baseline and most recent data? If data are collected from different sources, list both sources and identify the baseline or most recent. Examples of data sources include the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and the American Community Survey (ACS), among others.
Source of Benchmark Data	How does our community know how it compares to others? What data source does the health department use to see other communities’ performance on the same objective? The benchmark data source might be Healthy People or County Health Rankings, among others.
CHA/CHIP/SP	Is this objective listed in your state/community health assessment (CHA), state/community health improvement plan (CHIP), or strategic plan (SP)? In e-PHAB, you will check the box next to each that applies. Although it is not required that your selected objective be included in your CHA, CHIP, or SP, we encourage you to report on measures that are a priority for your health department and community.
PHAB Reaccreditation Standards & Measures	Which reaccreditation Measure(s) does this address? Although it is not required that your selected objective align with one or more of the PHAB Reaccreditation Measures, we encourage you to identify all applicable measures.

TIPS:

- When selecting objectives, chose ones that are meaningful and actionable in your community.
- When reporting your data, remember to include the denominator. For example, if addressing mortality, report the target as, ‘per 100,000 population’.
- Select a target that the community has a reasonable expectation of being able to meet. Remember that population-level health changes take time. For example, the percentage of adults aged 18 years and older who are obese has changed less than 3% nationally, over the last 6 years. Similarly, do not select a target that you have already exceeded—unless there is reason to believe that maintaining that target will require focused effort. The purpose of the target is to provide something towards which the community can work and monitor progress.
- For baseline and recent year, use the year that data were collected, not the year a report was produced/accessed.
- Write out acronyms.
- Read the list of topics carefully. Do not create a new topic if a similar one exists. You are encouraged to include objectives that focus on a priority subpopulation, but you do not need to create a new topic. Use the most closely aligned topic. For example, infant mortality rates among Latinos is included in the Infant Mortality topic.

- Select outcomes that apply to broad populations (e.g., the entire community, all the youth in a community, or all people with disabilities in the community), not clients served by the health department.

Other Resources:

Please check PHAB's accredited health department portal for relevant resources. These include:

- A spreadsheet that you can use to list potential objectives for reporting, prior to gaining access to the reaccreditation module.
- The reaccreditation e-learning module on population health outcomes.
- Webinars on population health outcomes, featuring David Kindig and his colleagues, as well as accredited health departments.