

NJSHAD Helps Hospitals Meet the Needs of Their Communities

A need for community-level data

As part of requirements under the Affordable Care Act, tax-exempt hospitals are required to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and adopt an implementation strategy at least every three years to maintain their tax-exempt 501(c)(3) status. New Jersey hospitals preparing CHNAs require health data specific to the communities they serve, along with comparison data at the county and state level.



That's where NJSHAD comes in.

A [Community Health Assessment data source page](#) was created in NJSHAD to help hospitals, individuals, and communities easily obtain the multiple datasets they need for the creation of a CHNA. Links to NJSHAD data resources include: state, county and municipal-level data for all NJ resident births, deaths, emergency department visits, and inpatient hospitalizations; state, county, and local health department-level Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS) data; and immunization status by county, municipality, school, and grade level.

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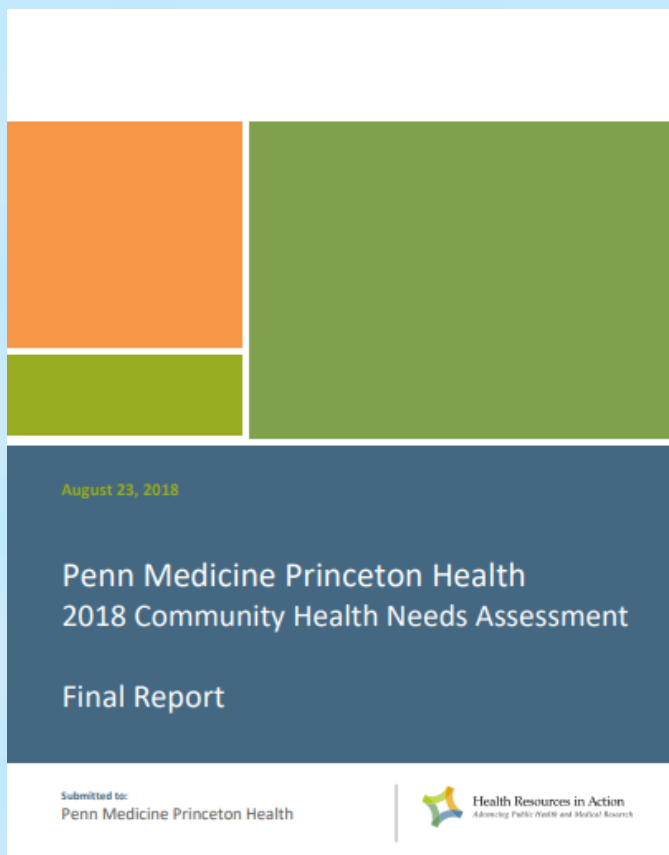
The New Jersey State Health Assessment Data (NJSHAD) system serves as the main data portal for the New Jersey Department of Health and provides public access to data and statistics from throughout NJDOH. NJSHAD provides public health indicator reports which combine statistics and contextual information, community health profiles which allow comparisons to state and national data, and interactive public health data query tools. The functionality, content, and utility of NJSHAD are constantly being enhanced.

nj.gov/health/shad

NJSHAD provides hospitals and consultants preparing CHNAs with the option to filter datasets and frame their own questions through user-selected demographics, geographic areas, health outcomes, and risk factors. [Local health data](#) are available in several ways including [community dashboards](#).

Penn Medicine Princeton Health

The [2018 CHNA for Penn Medicine Princeton Health](#) examined the health status of residents in the three-county area (Mercer, Middlesex, and Somerset) served by Penn Medicine Princeton Health, which includes over 1.5 million people. The CHNA process was then used to guide Penn Medicine Princeton Health programming, data-driven planning efforts, and strategic opportunities.



NJSHAD was the source of 30.8 % of the data (25 instances out of 81) in the Penn Medicine Princeton Health 2018 CHNA Final Report. Data were obtained from the NJSHAD Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS) query module eighteen times and from the NJSHAD Birth Certificate query module seven times. Subsequently, Penn Medicine Princeton Health determined that the community needs identified in the recent CHNA would be addressed in their 2018-2020 Strategic Implementation Plan.