



Quick Reads

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Legislative wrap-up

The first session of the 86th General Assembly came to a close on June 5. The Governor completed his actions on the 142 enrolled bills sent to him by the Legislature on July 2. Attached please find the Legislative Summary of Enacted Bills of Public Health Interest.

CHNA & HIP 2015 progress reports

In the late '80s, IDPH began its first statewide needs assessment and planning effort. At that time, staff traveled to each county with notebooks and pencils. Iowa was the first state to undertake this approach to public health and some questioned its value. Today, it is clear the process of Community Health Needs Assessments & Health Improvement Planning (CHNA & HIP) is a fundamental piece of statewide health planning and represents local action to promote and protect the health of Iowans. This year, local public health agencies submitted [progress reports](#) on their implementation efforts. Again this year, agencies are using solid, evidence-based strategies and innovative approaches to improve their community's health status. Please take time to review these locally-based initiatives. Local public health agencies welcome inquiries about their work.

SBIRT app

The new [Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment](#) (SBIRT) Iowa app is now available. This new tool, available free of charge, provides important on-the-go substance use information to Iowans, including alcohol and drug screening; information

for a loved one; and a treatment facility locator. Please find the app on [Google Play](#) or in the iTunes app store by searching for 'SBIRT Iowa.'

Program success

After six years of providing much-needed colorectal cancer education and screenings to Iowans, federal funding of the [Iowa Get Screened Colorectal Cancer Program](#) is coming to an end. Over the last six years, a total of 255 precancerous polyps were removed, 1,353 Fecal Immunochemical Tests (FITs) and 270 colonoscopies were provided to Iowans who would not have had access to these vital services without the program. The Iowa Get Screened Program will continue to operate on a smaller level utilizing state funds, and will provide screening services in [Polk County](#) and [Black Hawk County](#).

Monthly data snapshot

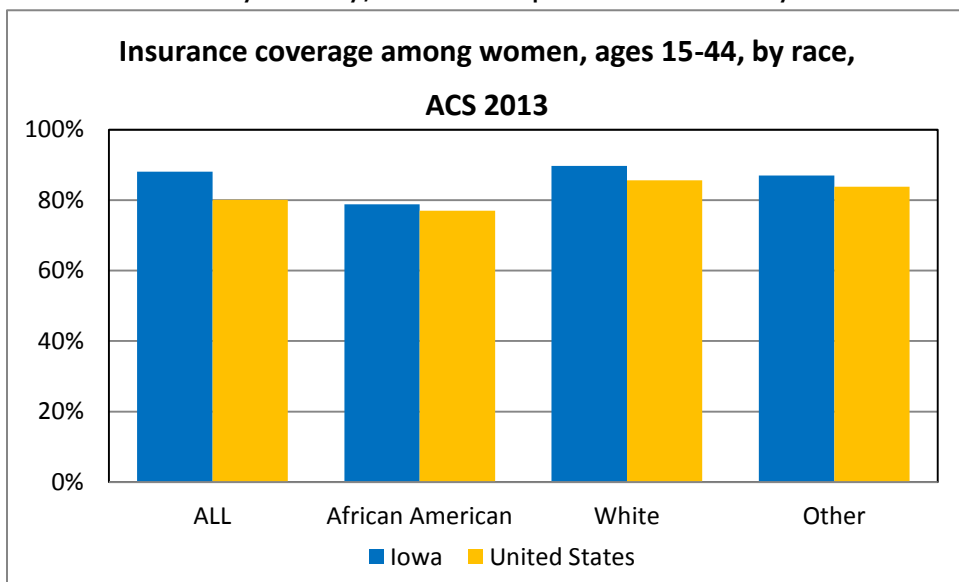
Data are essential to the practice of public health. Each month, Quick Reads highlights selected tidbits to help create awareness of IDPH data and epidemiology. To discover more of the important and useful data available from IDPH, please visit the [Public Health Data Tracking Portal](#).

Insurance Coverage among Women of Reproductive Age

According to the 2013 American Community Survey, almost 12 percent of 15-44 year old women in Iowa report having no health insurance, compared to the U.S. average of almost 20 percent.

Coverage was higher for non-Hispanic women than for minority women in Iowa, which is true of the U.S. as a whole. Almost 90 percent of non-Hispanic White women report having health insurance,

compared to 79 percent of African-American and 74 percent of Hispanic women in Iowa. More information about women and children's health in Iowa can be found in the [Title V Needs Assessment](#). Questions about the Title V Needs Assessment may be directed to [Sarah Mauch](#).



Congrats and kudos

A paired practica of IDPH summer interns - Dan Heitner and Anna Aderonmu – are working on the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Workforce Development Project sponsored by the National MCH Workforce Development Center. They are converting a national workforce development survey into an Iowa version to be completed by local MCH contract agencies to learn how we can better serve our local agencies. Dan and Anna have been invited to provide a presentation on this project at the CityMatCH Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah this September.

IDPH interim Division Director Brenda Dobson has received the Excellence in Practice award from the Association of State and Public Health Nutritionists (ASPHN). This award acknowledges and recognizes an ASPHN member for his or her outstanding contribution to the field of public health nutrition and his or her activities and efforts that have assisted in meeting ASPHN's mission.

IDPH was recognized by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) in its monthly [newsletter](#) for risk communications during the Ebola outbreak.

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To get *Quick Reads* directly in your inbox, please send a blank e-mail to join-quick_reads@lists.ia.gov. To contribute a news item or smart practice, please write to Polly Carver-Kimm at Polly.Carver-Kimm@idph.iowa.gov.

To everyone in public health and all our partners, keep up the great work!

— Gerd