In Spring 2015, Minnesota’s 48 community health boards (CHBs) identified the 10 most important community health issues in their CHBs, based on their community health assessment. A community health assessment provides the foundation for improving and promoting the health of the community; it identifies and describes: (1) the health status of the community, (2) the factors that contribute to health challenges, and (3) existing community assets and resources that the community can mobilize to improve the health status of its residents.

**REGIONAL HEALTH ISSUES**

Community health issues most frequently identified as most important in each region

- **NORTHWEST**
  - Obesity

- **WEST CENTRAL** (tied)
  - Chronic disease
  - Parenting-family systems
  - Access to mental health services
  - Income/poverty

- **SOUTHWEST**
  - Obesity

- **SOUTH CENTRAL**
  - Obesity

- **CENTRAL**
  - Mental health/wellbeing

- **METRO**
  - Mental health/wellbeing

- **SOUTHEAST**
  - Mental health/wellbeing

- **NORTHEAST** (tied)
  - Mental health/wellbeing
  - Obesity
  - Physical activity
  - Eating habits
  - Uninsured/underinsured

**STATEWIDE HEALTH ISSUES**

Community health issues most frequently identified as most important by Minnesota’s 48 CHBs

- Obesity: 40
- Mental health/wellbeing: 37
- Chronic disease: 28
- Physical activity: 26
- Alcohol: 21
- Parenting-family systems: 20
- Tobacco and secondhand smoke: 19
- Income/poverty: 18
- Eating habits: 17
- Access to mental health services: 17

More information: MDH Health Partnerships Division, Public Health Practice Section | www.health.state.mn.us/lphap | 651-201-3880