Moving Forward in 2010

Progress Toward Health Equity by Race and Ethnicity in Utah
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Health Status by Race and Ethnicity: 2005 Vs. 2010

BACKGROUND
In 2005 and 2010, the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) published editions of Health Status by Race and Ethnicity, comprehensive reports of public health data available about Utah racial and ethnic groups at each time period. Moving Forward in 2010 highlights some of the most pressing minority health issues described in more detail and compares the health status of Utah minorities reported in 2010 to the baselines established in the 2005 report.

FACTORS INFLUENCING CHANGE
Since 2005, many changes have taken place in Utah that may have influenced health status of racial and ethnic groups. In 2004, the Center for Multicultural Health (CMH) was established to facilitate health programs for Utah racial and ethnic minorities. CMH was funded by the U.S. Office of Minority Health to serve as the state office of minority health in 2005. CMH, other UDOH programs, local, federal and tribal governments, and private and non-profit organizations have conducted health promotion campaigns to encourage healthy lifestyles and environments. Frequently, these efforts have been specifically designed to address disparities highlighted by the 2005 report.

At the same time, the racial and ethnic minority populations of Utah have grown at rates exceeding the growth of the statewide population, largely through migration. A high proportion of newcomers from other states and countries are of racial or ethnic minority status. Therefore, the state racial and ethnic minority populations measured in 2005 and 2010 may be substantially different from each other.

A smaller proportion of Utahns had health insurance coverage at the time period of the 2010 report compared with the 2005 report. Health care costs have risen steadily during this time period and an economic downturn began in 2008.
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Methods

The baselines for determining health status change were the point estimates for indicator rates reported in the 2005 edition of Health Status by Race and Ethnicity. 2010 rates were originally reported in Health Status by Race and Ethnicity: 2010.

The rates reported in the 2005 edition of Health Status by Race and Ethnicity are referred to as “2005” rates and rates reported in the 2010 edition are referred to as “2010” rates. However, the actual years of data analysis varied, depending on data availability. The exact years of data analysis are listed in the original reports.

Change was defined as follows: The estimated rate for 2005 Status does not fall within the 95% confidence intervals for 2010 Status.

When appropriate, age-adjusted rates were used to determine if there was a change over time or a difference from the statewide rate, but only the crude rates are listed in this report for purposes of brevity and simplicity. The age-adjusted rates are listed in the original reports.

Indicators that were not included in both reports and data that were collected or analyzed differently in the two reports could not be analyzed for change over time. The Asian and Pacific Islander racial groups were combined in some of the data sets for one but not both reports. These indicators could not be analyzed for change over time for these two racial categories only.

Data were compiled using data from birth and death certificates, statewide surveys, and mandated reporting of certain diseases and conditions by health organizations.

For more information about the health indicators, data collection and analysis methodologies, data collection years, and age-adjusted rates, see the original reports:
