



Department  
of Health



# New York State Public Health Corps (NYSPHC) Fellowship Program

Educational Series

Understanding Disparities: When Data is the Problem

October 11, 2023

**Welcome!**

# Agenda

- Welcome and Agenda
- Learning Objectives
- Understanding Disparities: When Data is the Problem
- Closing/Evaluation/Program Updates
- Questions

# Learning Objectives

1. Introduction
2. The Value of Data
3. Data Quality Issues
4. Overcoming Data Weaknesses
5. The Value of Qualitative Data
6. Discussion

**Kevin Jobin-Davis, M.A.,  
Ph.D**



# UNDERSTANDING DISPARITIES: WHEN DATA IS THE PROBLEM!

Kevin Jobin-Davis, PhD

Amanda Duff, PhD



Why do we want so  
much data anyways?

# How's your best data looking?

What's my best data source?



Weaknesses?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:



# Data Quality Issues

- Data Set Issues
- Data Collection Issues
- Data Entry Issues
- Data Cleaning Issues
- Data Interpretation Issues
- Multiple Data Sets

# Overcoming Data weaknesses

1. Clarify Data Weaknesses
2. Cross-validate Results
3. Quantitative & Qualitative Data

# Does that actually work?

Knowledge Accuracy in Daily Life:  
Facts, Time & Margins of Error

# Democratizing Data

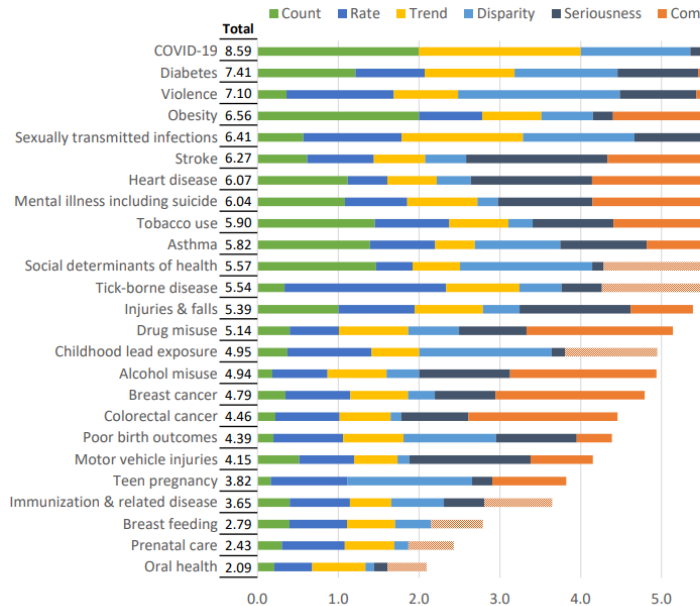
- All Knowledge has Value
- Identify Data Limitations, Don't Discredit
- Build Knowledge through Diverse Sources
- PDSA

Enter...

# Qualitative data

# Our best understanding

- In the absence of PERFECT data (it never existed...) we can still make hypotheses that lead to a better understanding
- What is the standard of proof?



Opportunity	Max Score	Region's Score
Health issue aligns with organizations' strategic goals	3	
If already invested in addressing this need	2	
are efforts working sustainably	1	
ive resources and expertise to lead the effort	2	
sted in supporting efforts to address this need	3	
impact	3	
<b>Total Opportunity Score</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>

Need	Max Score	Score		
		Albany	Rensselaer	Average
Total number of cases	2	1.16	1.27	1.21
out NY - Rates	2	0.72	0.77	0.74
ions - Disparities	2	1.16	1.07	1.11
ality	2	1.13	1.42	1.27
ged on the survey	2	1.00	1.00	1.00
	3	1.97	2.00	1.98
	2			
	3			
<b>Total Need Score</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7.13</b>	<b>7.52</b>	<b>7.33</b>

# LAYERS OF ANALYSIS

## Albany-Rensselaer – Health Issue Rankings

Health Issue	Total Priority Score	Need	Opportunity	Organization-Community Partner-based		
				Data-based	based	Partner-based
COVID-19	1	1	1	1	3	1
				8	2	2
				4	4	4
				15	1	5
				11	6	3
				13	6	7
				12	9	6
				7	4	11
				9	8	8
				5	10	12
				16	10	10
				3	12	15
				2	16	9
				14	13	13
				10	14	14
				6	14	16

Need Score 18 Total Points

13 Points based on data

<p><b>2 – Count</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Absolute Number</li> </ul>	<p><b>2 – Rate</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compared to NYS, excl. NYC, rate</li> </ul>	<p><b>2 – Trend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><math>(Slope) \times (Years)</math> (Average Count)</li> </ul>
<p><b>2 – Seriousness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From health behavior to mortality</li> </ul>	<p><b>3 – Community Priority</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey results-based</li> </ul>	<p><b>2 – Other Consideration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More recent data</li> </ul>



# The value of conversation

- ‘Group process’ is a valid way to collect data
  - Efficient
  - Specific
- Quantitative process cannot accomplish what ‘group process’ does
- In ‘group process’, participants are analytical tools



# Community health conversations



# From here to there

## Quantitative

- Last year in NYS homelessness was up 78% in NYS and a record number of unhoused died

## Qualitative

- Top regional issues are:
  - Governmental barriers such as access to an ID and designations of 'homeless'
  - Lack of access to immediate services

# From here to there to there

## Quantitative

- 1 in 3 older adults fall each year; less than half adults 65 and over (41.3%) with reduced physical or cognitive function engage in physical activity


## Qualitative

- Top regional issues are:
  - Transportation
  - Home health aides
  - Social isolation
- Top regional opportunities are:
  - Senior transportation navigator
  - Pooled homecare, more day programs
  - 'Aging is ok' campaign

# What about you?

Let's talk opportunity!

How to overcome data weaknesses:



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**“Errors using inadequate data are much less than those using no data at all.”**

Charles Babbage

# THANK YOU

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# Q&A

**Closing, Announcements,  
Updates, Save the Date**





# The LMS is Here!

- We are excited to announce that the live November Educational Series event will be accessed through the New York Learns Public Health (NYLearnsPH) LMS **for Fellows!**
- **Fellows** will receive instructions for accessing the LMS starting the week of October 16th. After that fellows can check out the October 11th Educational Series event recording in the LMS.
- Reminder:
  - Watch your email for instructions on how to access your LMS account next week
  - Be sure to test your LMS login before the November Educational Series begins
- If you need assistance with your LMS account, please use these LMS Support contacts.
  - [edlearn@health.ny.gov](mailto:edlearn@health.ny.gov)
  - 518-473-4223 (Press 3 for Abbey)



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Instructions can be found on the [Training & Resources website](#).



### LMS SUPPORT

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[edlearn@health.ny.gov](mailto:edlearn@health.ny.gov)

[Online LMS Help Resources for Fellows](#)



# Announcements & Updates

- Please complete the Disparities in Data Evaluation Survey which will be sent via email following this meeting
- If you want to continue the conversation, join the NYSPHC Fellowship Program LinkedIn Group to continue networking and professional development:  
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14059709>



# Save the Date!

- Educational Series
  - November 8<sup>th</sup>, 12PM-1PM
  - January 10<sup>th</sup>, 12PM-1PM
  - February 14<sup>th</sup>, 12PM-1PM
- NYSPHC Annual Summit
  - Albany, NY
  - December 12-13
  - Registration is LIVE!
  - Hotel information can be found on the registration website
- Quarterly Consortia
  - March 2024

# NYSPHC Training and Resources Website

<https://nysphcresources.health.ny.gov/training-resource-center>

New York State Public Health Corps  
**Fellowship Program**



**Training Resource Center Home**



About the  
NYSPHC



Fellow Training  
Resources



Mentor Training  
Resources



Resources by  
Region



Workgroup  
Resources



NYSPHC Events  
Calendar

# Questions?

