

# PUBLIC HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2014 LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH INDICATORS UPDATE

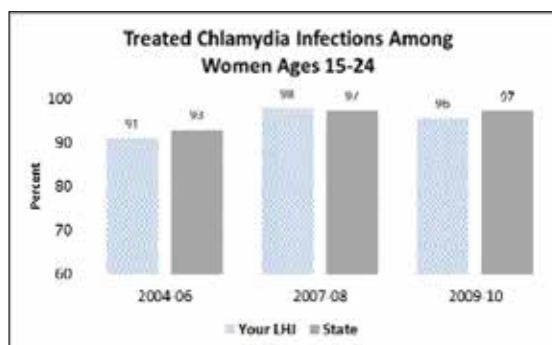
The local public health indicators website update of 31 indicators for 2014 provides a snapshot of health status, health behavior, and public health system performance at the local level. Local public health agencies can use these data to help evaluate their work and decide where to invest limited public health resources to improve community health. The indicators also reveal how health status or determinants of health compare across Washington State.

The database is also designed to work in conjunction with Washington's Standards for Public Health, measurements of statewide and local system capacity. Together, the indicators reveal how healthy we are and the performance standards examine various processes that improve local and state public health functions. Washington's Public Health Improvement Plan (PHIP) requires local measurement of health status or determinants of health.

The 31 public health indicators updated in 2014 are organized into 5 areas:

- Communicable Disease (4 indicators)
- Prevention and Health Promotion (8 indicators)
- Environmental Health (3 indicators)
- Maternal and Child Health (10 indicators)
- Access to Care (6 indicators)

Local health agencies are using the local public health indicator data to identify or confirm health issues; develop action plans and evaluate progress; and community outreach and education. Most agencies are interested in how their jurisdiction compares to the state as a whole, and many share the information with their local boards of health and community groups.



This chart is an example of how county indicator data can be used to highlight benchmarks and set goals and strategies for improvement. In this example, a local health agency described as 'Your LHJ' proposed to the their local Board of Health in 2007 that they work to limit the spread of disease by focusing on contact and follow-up with cases of Chlamydia among their highest risk population (women ages 15–24). As a result, the percentage of treated Chlamydia cases increased significantly from 91% in 2004–06 to 98% in 2007–08 and 96% in 2009–10, and is now comparable to the state average of 97%.

More information is available at

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/PublicHealthSystemResourcesandServices/Indicators.aspx>

*April 2014*

**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND  
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON