



*Advancing  
public health  
performance*

Public Health Accreditation Board

# STANDARDS & Measures

**VERSION 1.5**  
Adopted December 2013

## STANDARD 5.2: Conduct a comprehensive planning process resulting in a Tribal/state/community health improvement plan.

The Tribal, state, or community health improvement plan is a long-term, systematic plan to address issues identified in the Tribal, state, or community health assessment. The purpose of the community health improvement plan is to describe how the health department and the community it serves will work together to improve the health of the population of the jurisdiction that the health department serves. The community, stakeholders, and partners can use a solid community health improvement plan to set priorities, direct the use of resources, and develop and implement projects, programs, and policies.

The plan is more comprehensive than the roles and responsibilities of the health department alone, and the plan's development must include participation of a broad set of community stakeholders and partners. The planning and implementation process is community-driven. The plan reflects the results of a collaborative planning process that includes significant involvement by a variety of community sectors.

The state health department's state health improvement plan addresses the needs of all citizens in the state. The local health department's community health improvement plan addresses the needs of the citizens within the jurisdiction it serves. The Tribal health department's Tribal health improvement plan addresses the needs of the Tribal population residing within the Tribe's jurisdictional area.

## Standard 5.2: Conduct a comprehensive planning process resulting in a Tribal/state/community health improvement plan.

<b>MEASURE</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>SIGNIFICANCE</b>
<p><b>Measure 5.2.2 L</b> Community health improvement plan adopted as a result of the community health improvement planning process</p>	<p>The purpose of this measure is to assess the local health department's community health improvement plan. While some or many programs in the local health department may have program specific plans, they do not fulfill the purpose of the community health improvement plan, which looks at population health across programs and across the community.</p>	<p>The community health improvement plan provides guidance to the health department, its partners, and stakeholders for improving the health of the population within the health department's jurisdiction. The plan reflects the results of a collaborative planning process that includes significant involvement by key sectors. Partners can use a community health improvement plan to prioritize existing activities and set new priorities. The plan can serve as the basis for taking collective action and can facilitate collaboration.</p>
<b>REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION</b>	<b>GUIDANCE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF EXAMPLES</b>
<p><b>1. Community health improvement plan that includes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Desired measurable outcomes or indicators of health improvement and priorities for action</li> </ul>	<p><b>1. The local health department must provide a community health improvement plan that includes all of the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The desired measurable outcomes or indicators of the health improvement effort and priorities for action, from the perspective of community members. The plan must include community health priorities, measurable objectives, improvement strategies and activities with time-framed targets that were determined in the community planning process. In establishing priorities, the plan must include consideration of addressing social determinants of health, causes of higher health risks and poorer health outcomes of specific populations, and health inequities.</li> </ul> <p>Measurable and time-framed targets may be contained in another document, such as an annual work plan. If this is the case, the companion document must be provided with the health improvement plan for this measure.</p> <p>Strategies may be evidence-based, practice-based, or promising practices or may be innovative to meet the needs of the community. National state-of-the-art guidance (for example, the National Prevention Strategy, Guide to Community Preventive Services, and Healthy People 2020) should be referenced, as appropriate.</p>	<p><b>1 plan</b></p> <p><b>5 years</b></p>

## MEASURE 5.2.2 L, continued

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| <p>b. Policy changes needed to accomplish health objectives</p> <p>c. Individuals and organizations that have accepted responsibility for implementing strategies</p> <p>d. Consideration of state and national priorities</p> | <p>b. Policy changes needed to accomplish the identified health objectives must be included in the plan. Policy changes must include those that are adopted to alleviate the identified causes of health inequity. Policy changes may address social and economic conditions that influence health equity including housing, transportation, education, job availability, neighborhood safety, access to recreational opportunities, and zoning, for example.</p> <p>c. Designation of individuals and organizations that have accepted responsibility for implementing strategies outlined in the community health improvement plan. This may include assignments to staff or agreements between planning participants, stakeholders, health care providers (community benefit), other local governmental agencies, or other community organizations. For this measure, agreements do not need to be formal, such as an MOA/MOU.</p> <p>d. Local health departments must demonstrate that they considered both national and state health improvement priorities where they have been established. National priority alignment could include the National Prevention Strategy and Healthy People 2020.</p> |  |
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<b>MEASURE</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>SIGNIFICANCE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF EXAMPLES</b>	<b>DATED WITHIN</b>
<p><b>Measure 5.2.3 A</b> Elements and strategies of the health improvement plan implemented in partnership with others</p>	<p>The purpose of this measure is to assess the Tribal, state, or local health department's implementation of its community health improvement plan in partnership with others.</p>	<p>Any plan is useful only when it is implemented and provides guidance for activities and resource allocation.</p>	<p><b>1 report or a group of reports</b></p>	<p><b>5 years</b></p>
<b>REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION</b>	<b>GUIDANCE</b>			
<p><b>1. A process to track actions taken to implement strategies in the community health improvement plan</b></p>	<p><b>1. The health department must provide a tracking process of actions taken toward the implementation of the community health improvement plan.</b>  The tracking process must specify the strategies being used, the responsible partners involved, and the status of the effort or results of the actions taken.  Documentation could be, for example, a narrative, table, spread sheet, or a combination. This may look like a work plan that includes the status of the implementation of the work plan.</p>			
<p><b>2. Implementation of the plan</b></p>	<p><b>2. The health department must document areas of the plan that were implemented by the health department and/or its partners.</b> Examples must identify a specific achievement and describe how it was accomplished.</p>		<p><b>2 examples</b></p>	<p><b>5 years</b></p>