



# CITY OF MANCHESTER

## Department of Health

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### Manchester Health Department Public Health Report Cards

In 1997, the Manchester Health Department issued its first series of public health report cards for the community. Since that time, these report cards have been used by many community agencies to support grant initiatives and program development.

Measuring the health of a community has always been an important function of a local public health department. In this regard, the Manchester Health Department routinely collects and analyzes local health data from several sources. The Healthy People 2010 Objectives, which are national goals for health, are utilized to examine, by comparison, the health status of Manchester residents. This data is also compared to health indicators from other communities and the state.

An "Introduction to the Public Health Report Cards" has been included to provide the community with sociodemographic information defining the unique needs of Manchester residents. Also, in this series of report cards new sections have been added to link the identified health concern to economic costs, and to provide recommendations for community and individual actions to improve health. These recommendations are based on best practices and models of service that have proven to work across the country. It is our hope that these recommendations will provide the foundation for future community initiatives.

Local health data, in the form of these public health report cards, as well in more detailed reports, is utilized to foster and fortify a collaborative community health improvement process. This process involves leaders from health care, community health and social agencies, education, local government, and the community at large. In Manchester, the Healthy Manchester Leadership Council leads this community health improvement process. These report cards, as well as other public health information, are available online at [www.manchesternh.gov](http://www.manchesternh.gov).

Sincerely,

*Frederick Rusczek*

Frederick A. Rusczek, MPH  
Public Health Director