Alcohol and Motor Vehicle Deaths

Driving under the influence (DUI) of drugs and/or alcohol can impair motor skills, reaction time, and judgment. It puts not only the driver at risk but also passengers and others who share the road. Youth in the county have greater rates of use of alcohol than in California overall, and the rate of motor vehicle deaths is three times higher in the county than in the state.

- Half of 11th graders (49%) in the county reported using alcohol in the past 30 days, compared to 33% in California overall.
- The rate of motor vehicle deaths in the county (24.5 per 100,000) was three times higher than the state (7.5 per 100,000) in 2009-2011.
- The alcohol related arrest rate is falling for adults in the county from 12.7 per 1,000 in 2010 to 8.7 per 1,000 in 2012.

Crime

When people feel safe in their neighborhoods, it can affect their mental and physical health; they are more likely to be physically active outdoors and to have reduced stress levels.

- There were 1,353 crimes in Calaveras County in 2012, the majority of which were larceny/theft (619) and burglary (348).

Air Quality

Particulate matter and ozone pose the greatest health concerns to California’s air. Long-term exposure to high concentrations of particulate matter and ozone (which creates smog) is linked to asthma, cognitive defects, cancer, and heart disease.

- There are fewer days now with high ozone levels in the county. In 2005, there were 25 days when ozone levels exceeded U.S. regulations, and that is down to 3 days in 2011.

Endnotes


Community Assessment Project Overview

The 2014 Community Assessment Project presents data on the health and well-being of Calaveras County residents. The goal of the assessment is to help improve the quality of life for county residents by providing accurate and reliable information and raising awareness of community assets and challenges.

The project was led and funded by the Mark Twain Medical Center with the help of a Steering Committee of representatives from Calaveras Unified School District, Calaveras County Office of Education, Calaveras County Sheriff’s Office, Calaveras County District Attorney’s Office, Calaveras County Public Health Department, Calaveras Works and Human Services Agency, First 5, the Resource Connection Food Bank, and the Mark Twain Health Care District.

County Demographics

It’s important to know the age, gender, race/ethnicity, and languages of people in the county to help plan for the future and make sure that services are appropriate for our population. In Calaveras County there are a lot of older residents, as compared to California overall.

- There were approximately 44,932 people in the county to 2010-2012, much higher than in California at 44%.
- Almost two-thirds (63%) of people in the county were 40 years old or older in 2010-2012, much higher than in California at 44%.
- Most county residents were Caucasian (83%) followed by Latino (11%) in 2010-2012.
- There were 44,932 residents in Calaveras County in 2013.
- Almost two-thirds (63%) of people in the county were 40 years old or older in 2010-2012, much higher than in California at 44%.
- More than 2 out of 3 Americans are either overweight or obese. 3 4
- Almost one-quarter (23%) of high school graduates in the county completed all the required University of California/ California State University preparation courses compared to over one-half (58%) of California graduates in 2010-2012.

Economic Well-Being

The economic status of an individual has a huge impact on their health and well-being. Wealthier and more educated individuals tend to have better health, easier access to health care, and they even live longer lives than lower-income individuals. The good news is that the economic picture is getting a little bit better. Unemployment is going down slightly over the last couple of years, but there has still been an overall big loss in jobs over the last 5 years.

- The unemployment rate in Calaveras County was 13% in 2012, down from 14% in 2011.
- There were 7,650 jobs in 2013, down from 9,220 jobs in 2007.
- Per capita personal income in the county was almost $40,000 in 2012, lower than California at $46,477.
- In one in every 558 homes in the county was in foreclosure in December 2013.
- Eight out of 10 women received prenatal care in their first trimester of pregnancy in the county in 2011.
- Maternal and Child Health
- Access to Health Care
- Childhood Obesity
- EDENKIDS®