

Erie County Department of Mental Health Prevention Programs Gaps and Barriers Analysis

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Gaps and Barriers Analysis Overview

The Gaps and Barriers Analysis for Prevention Services in Erie County compares the provision of prevention services within each ZIP Code area to risk indicators from the Erie County Risk Indicator Database (RIDB). Gaps are identified where there is a mismatch between the prevention services and risk level (e.g. no/low prevention provision and high risk). First, the distribution of prevention services was evaluated by compiling information about prevention programs and their locations through the Erie County Prevention Services Information Center, an online repository for this information. Providers identified the approximate target population, type of program, and ZIP Code location(s) for their programs. These data were then tallied by ZIP Code, with individual programs being counted once per ZIP Code of service provision in order to avoid over counting. For example, a school-based program might be offered in three elementary schools in ZIP Code 14006 in the Lakeshore Central School District, but this ZIP Code received only one tally for these programs in order to avoid redundancy. While some programs do not have an explicit locational component or are home-based, most prevention services are offered at specific locations and can thus be tabulated for this analysis.

Maps were developed from these data to evaluate the spatial distribution of programs in Erie County and then to examine existing gaps in service provision. The maps of prevention programs are broken down into five categories that correspond to none, one, a few (2 or 3), some (4 or 5) and many (more than 5) programs. The gaps and barriers analysis for prevention programs compares the highest level of aggregated risk for ZIP codes in Erie County with the number of recurring prevention programs. Risk Indicators Database (RIDB) measures were summed and then re-quartiled for this aggregated risk measure; the locations with the highest level of risk are those with aggregated measures that fall in the fourth quartiles of either ZIP codes in Erie County Excluding City of Buffalo or ZIP codes in the City of Buffalo Only.

Gaps and Barriers Analysis Maps

The 2017 version of this document includes only an overview of the results with the visualization now in an interactive format. To view the maps, visit the Erie RIDB web site and use the interactive version of the map on the Prevention Programs Gaps and Barriers Analyses tab. There, you can use the layer list to turn on and off tabs to view all programs, school based programs or recurring programs, as well as areas of high risk that have coverage and those that do not. You may also query the map to view locations by type of program or schools with no programs by school district.

2017 Update

The 2017 version of this document includes updated data for the following risk indicators: alcohol sales establishments, population instability (migration), rental residential properties, extreme economic deprivation, Gini coefficient, divorce and separation, grade 8 English (ELA) performance, OASAS alcohol and substance abuse admissions, neighborhood index, crime and health data

Gaps and Barriers Analysis Results

- Descriptive Maps of Prevention Program Locations
 - Location-specific prevention activity is largely absent from the southernmost and easternmost towns in Erie County, as well as the Town of Clarence. There are also ZIP codes in the Town of Amherst, Town of Cheektowaga, and Town of Lancaster

- that have no location-specific programs.
- The environmental programs are not location specific and cover the county or county sub-regions as a whole. These include mass media (e.g. TV and radio) programs and are not represented on the maps.
 - School-based programs are missing in many parts of extreme northeastern Erie County, as well as in many areas of southern Erie County, such as the Town of Colden, Town of Newstead, Town of North Collins and Town of Sardinia. Overall coverage in the City of Buffalo and the surrounding suburbs is good. The City of Buffalo, Town of Tonawanda, Town of Amherst, Town of Cheektowaga and the City of Lackawanna all have many school-based programs aligned to the municipal boundaries. The North Collins Central School District, Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District and Akron Central School District are all lacking in programs, as is Yorkshire-Pioneer. All other school districts have at least one program.
 - Recurring programs exhibit a similar pattern to school-based programs, with most programs concentrated in the City of Buffalo and areas to the northeast and south of the City. A few locations that had school based programs, such as the Town of Aurora and the Town of Eden, are lacking coverage of recurring programs. Several school districts, such as Springville-Griffith, Cheektowaga-Maryvale and Depew, have no coverage of recurring programs.
 - Maps of Highest Risk Locations with Prevention Programs
 - Erie County Excluding City of Buffalo
 - ZIP codes with the highest aggregated risk are located in the more suburban ZIP codes adjacent to the City of Buffalo within the Towns of Tonawanda, Amherst, Cheektowaga, West Seneca, Lackawanna, and Hamburg. There is also an at-risk ZIP Code in southern Erie County.
 - Most ZIP codes with highest aggregated risk have at least one recurring prevention program, with the exception of ZIP codes 14227, 14217, 14081 and 14034, which have no recurring programs.
 - City of Buffalo Only
 - The four ZIP codes in the City of Buffalo with the highest aggregated risk are located on the City's Lower West Side, Downtown, First Ward, and East Side neighborhoods (14201, 14202, 14203, and 14211).
 - ZIP codes 14201, 14202, and 14211 all have many recurring programs, however ZIP Code 14203 has no programs. Other areas of the city that are not classified as being high risk have at least a few recurring prevention programs.