

### History

The Delaware Office of Minority Health (DOMH) was established in 1994 by Governor's Executive Order.

### Health Priorities

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DDPH) has identified the following health priorities for the people of Delaware, one of which focuses on eliminating health disparities.

Health Priorities for the General Population
Cancer
Health disparities
Infant mortality

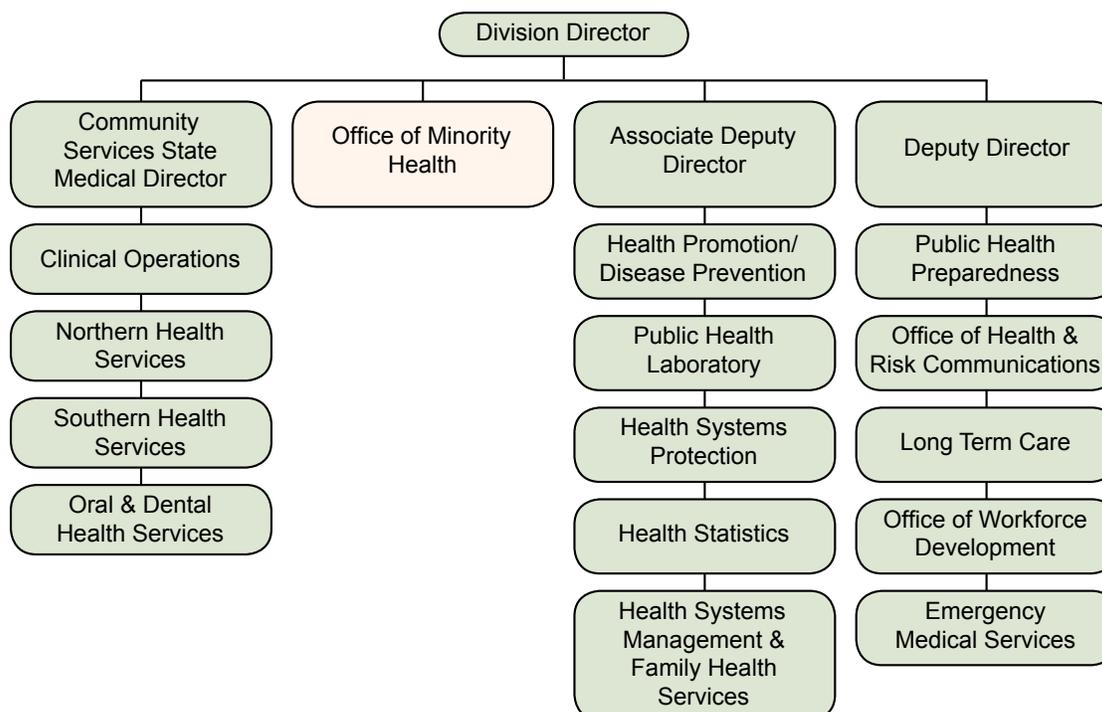
### Overview

	Funding for MH/HD Activities	Personnel Dedicated to MH/HD	MH/HD Unit	MH/HD Advisory Body	State MH/HD Legislation or Mandate	MH/HD Strategic Plan	Evaluation of MH/HD Activities
Delaware	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Total Affirmative Responses out of 46	30	38	36	36	27	36	39

### Organization, Infrastructure and Resources

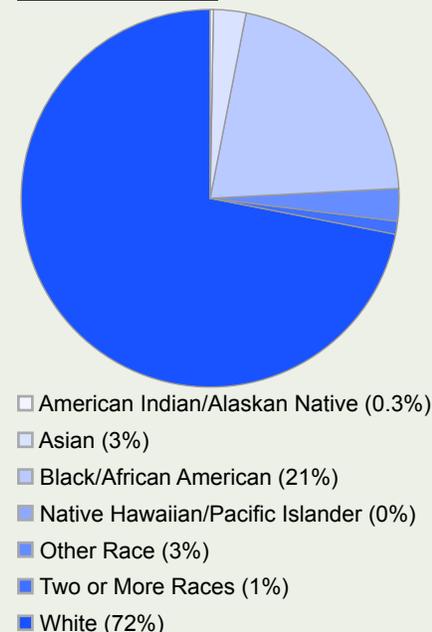
This simplified organizational chart demonstrates the location of the state's racial/ethnic minority health focal point in relation to the State/Territorial Health Official and other key public health offices:

#### Delaware Division of Public Health

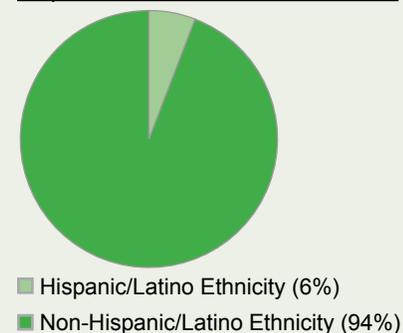


Total State Population:  
853,476

Racial Distribution



Hispanic/Latino Ethnic Distribution



*Note: People can self-identify as members of any racial group in the Census, as well as report having Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.*

Source: 2006 American Community Survey, US Census Bureau

## Strategic Planning

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DDPH) addresses health disparities through the following goals. No tracking or measurement information was provided by DDPH:

### Office of Minority Health

- Goal 1: Provide more consistent review and oversight of DDPH programs to reduce disparities
- Goal 2: Develop the DDPH Community Advisory Council to succeed the Disparities Task Force
- Goal 3: Increase OMH staff, particularly a State-funded DOMH Director
- Goal 4: Develop more transparency in the health community
- Goal 5: Strengthen partnerships with minority communities to solve key health concerns
- Goal 6: Develop a volunteer bank to assure accessibility to trained interpreters

### Partnerships

- The DOMH is currently facilitating the development of the DPH Community Advisory Council, which will advise its leadership on racial and ethnic minority health and health disparities (MH/HD) issues.
- MH/HD activities are conducted and coordinated across many DDPH program offices.
- DDPH maintains partnerships with an array of entities active in MH/HD, including: other state government agencies, federal government, advisory bodies, community, faith based and non-profit organizations, health systems, schools, universities and professional associations.

### Health Disparities Goals

- Goal 1: Develop an inventory of providers by geographic location and language capabilities
- Goal 2: Compile and distribute directory of local/state/federally funded programs impacting racial/ethnic and other disadvantaged groups
- Goal 3: Increase linkages with community partners in addressing infant mortality, cancer, diabetes, HIV and Cardiovascular Disease
- Goal 4: Develop strategies to assist people in finding and utilizing a medical home
- Goal 5: Collaborate with partners to develop standards on screening and referral for at-risk populations consistent with client resources, transportation, and access to care
- Goal 6: Promulgate medical screening and referral standards, including DPH vendors.
- Goal 7: Integrate Health Disparities elimination strategies into every DPH program area
- Goal 8: Establish a one-stop medical screening consortium for all chronic diseases
- Goal 9: Conduct HD information campaign using a multi-level approach
- Goal 10: Educate/train DPH staff and partners on CLAS standards for culturally competent services
- Goal 11: Develop message on HD challenges to use in multi-level approach for specific populations
- Goal 12: Increase HD partners and improve their capacity to work effectively with DPH
- Goal 13: Build capacity to define local data to better identify target populations

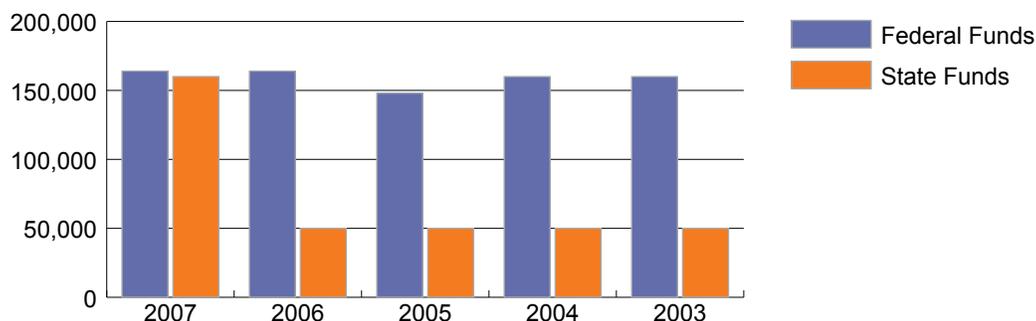
## Human Capital Investments

The following staff dedicates all or part of their work hours to MH/HD activities at the DDPH:

Job Category	Total Number Dedicated to MH/HD	% of Work Hours Each Spends on MH/HD Activities
Administrator/Director	1	25%

## Financial Investments

DDPH investments in racial/ethnic minority health and health disparities (MH/HD) activities derived from federal, state and other funding sources from 2003 to 2007. The totals reflected below may not include all state health agency investments in MH/HD activities and therefore may be an underestimate.



## Activities

### Health Professions Academy

Delaware's Division of Public Health, in partnership with Delaware State University and two public school districts, established the Delaware Health Professions Academy in 2005. The primary purpose is to encourage minority youth in grades four through six to pursue higher education in the health professions. Other goals are to foster diversity in Delaware's health care workforce and for students to improve academically.

#### Partners

DHHS OMH, DDPH, Delaware State University, Capital School District and Caesar Rodney School District

#### Activity Outcomes

By September 2008, the OMH hopes that half of the enrollees perform in math and science at a level that is one grade higher than baseline and that 20% indicate an interest in a health profession. Increased enrollment of minority students in pre-professional health education is another anticipated outcome.

#### Evaluation Methods

Annual monitoring of academic progress of Academy students in areas of math and science

### Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium

Minority populations in Delaware experience higher rates of infant mortality than its general population. To reduce this gap in infant health, DDPH partnered with birthing facilities and other health care organizations in the state to educate at-risk women of childbearing age about nutrition, healthy pregnancy and infant health.

#### Partners (and Funding)

State of Delaware (\$4.9 million/yr), DDPH, State Legislators, minority-serving hospitals, clinics, birthing facilities, community and faith-based organizations

#### Activity Outcomes

Collaboration with birthing facilities, annual Governor's report on infant mortality, public education program focused on infant mortality and health issues affecting women of childbearing age

#### Evaluation Methods

Data collection/surveillance

## Activities continued...

### Champions of Change Colorectal Cancer Screening Initiative

The DDPH expanded its existing cancer screening program to include colorectal cancer screening in 2004 to reduce disproportionately high rates of this cancer in minority communities. DDPH and its community- and faith- based partners developed education and screening advocacy tools which were reviewed by focus groups and an advisory board comprised of people from minority communities. Cancer education and screening took place during cancer prevention drives at faith-based organizations and minority community functions. In conjunction with the education and outreach program, DDPH added colorectal cancer screening services to its existing (federally-funded) breast and cervical cancer screening program. The program also added prostate screening services in 2007. Hospital-based screening advocates and nurse navigators assist in completing the screening and diagnostic process, assuring that all abnormal screening results receive appropriate follow-up.

#### Partners

State of Delaware, DDPH, all Delaware hospital systems, community- and faith- based partners

#### Activity Outcomes

Increases in early detection and treatment of colorectal cancer; decreases in colorectal cancer mortality among minority populations, including a 47% increase in colorectal cancer screening rates among African Americans in Delaware

#### Evaluation Methods

Track: number of new clients enrolled in cancer screening programs, responses to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS)

Delaware's primary contact for racial/ethnic minority health and health disparities is:

#### **Herman Ellis, MD, MPH, FACPM**

State Medical Director and Acting Director, Office of Minority Health

Delaware Division of Public Health

<http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/mh/minority.html>

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