



NOTES

Terms defined in the glossary appear in the Social Health Assessment. Definitions are specific to that assessment. They are broken up by the module in which they appear. Some terms appear in more than one module and are listed in the “Overall” section of the glossary to avoid duplication.

OVERALL

- **Environment:** All of the things make a community what it is. There are many parts that make up the environment.
 - The **physical environment** includes things that you can see, touch, or interact with. This includes roads, parks, or signs. It can also include programs or services that people can use.
 - The **social environment** includes attitudes or feelings that people have and that may change how they act.
 - The **economic environment** includes things related to money that may encourage or discourage behaviors. This could include fines, rewards, or discounts.
- **Home visits:** Visits to residents’ homes made by Firefighters, EMS, public health or other governments employees or volunteers to check on the welfare of the reside and status of the home.
- **Policy:** Laws, regulations, rules, and procedures that tell how things should be done. They should be written down. They are usually designed to guide or change behavior. Policies often come from the government or an organization. They can lead to changes in the environment or in the way things are done. Putting changes into policy can make them last longer and be harder to undo.
- **Strategies:** How you plan to do something. For example, if the goal is for people to drink more water, the strategy might be to have water at all public events.

ECONOMIC STABILITY

- **Disability:** An impairment that may be developmental, mental, physical, sensory or some combination of these. A disability substantially affects how a person lives their life of may be present from birth or develop during their life due to some illness or injury, Common examples are conditions like blindness, deafness, paralysis, or speech impairments. It may also refer to people with autism, people with cerebral palsy, people with various genetic abnormalities like Down’s Syndrome, or people who use a wheel chair.
- **Economic development:** The process by which a community improves the economic, political, and social well-being of its residents. It describes a change in a community’s economy in both numbers (how much money is moving around) and in people’s lives (how they are living every day).

ECONOMIC STABILITY

- **Incentives**: Something that causes communities, businesses, or people to do something. In this case it could be tax breaks or other financial rewards for businesses that move into a community and/or create jobs.
- **Job training**: Preparing someone to do a certain job or group of jobs. This may include formal training programs from a high school or technical school, individual classes offered in person or online. It can be offered by a business, non-profit, or community. They may be free or have a cost associated with them. They may be specific to a certain job (i.e. plumbing training) or more general (i.e. computer skill classes, writing classes, or language classes).
- **Minority- owned businesses**: A business that is owned at least 51% by people who identify as a minority. If the business is publicly owned, at least 51% of the stock should be owned by people who identify as minority. In the United States, minorities include people who are Asian, Black, Hispanic, and Native American.
- **Property maintenance code**: A code that deals with the conditions of existing housing and non-residential property including commercial or industrial land uses. It establishes the minimum requirements for the maintenance of existing buildings in a community and how those requirements will be enforced.
- **Small business development**: Businesses are classified as “small” if they have less than 500 employees. They are also usually locally or privately owned. Communities can support the development of small businesses in a variety of ways. This may include helping to develop a small business network, providing training or education for small business owners, providing tax incentives for new small businesses, and making it easier for a small business to locate in the community.
- **Women-owned businesses**: A business that is owned at least 51% by women. In the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51% of the stock must be owned by women.

EDUCATION

- **Educational opportunities**: Opportunities in the community for residents to learn something new. This can be a series of classes for a GED or training certificate or a single class (i.e.. computer program class, training on a specific topic). They may be offered by a school or university or by a community group, non-profit, library or other group.
- **Education services**: Services that support students in their learning or education. This can include tutoring services, GED assistance programs, English as a second language courses, mentoring programs, SAT/ACT preparation course, or home schooling resources.

EDUCATION

- **Municipal documents**: A document made by a community as part of their governmental process. This may include the meeting minutes, agendas, ordinances, resolutions, announcements or other forums.
- **Quality early childhood education**: A childcare program which services kids from birth to age 5. It provides a safe, nurturing environment while promoting the physical, social, emotional and intellectual development of the children in the program. They often use a high quality curriculum that address age-appropriate learning standards and developmental milestones.
- **Translation services**: Services that translate information into other languages. This includes written translation of documents. It also includes real-time translation with in person or phone translators.

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY CONTEXT

- **Citizens on patrol**: A program where regular people are screened, background checked, and trained by their local law enforcement agency. They can then patrol their neighborhoods acting as “eyes and ears” for police and other law enforcements.
- **Civic engagement**: Any activity where a person or group addresses issues that concern the public. This may include both political and non-political activities. Some examples include attending council meetings, registering voters, providing input at community meetings, contacting elected officials, fundraising for a charity or non-profit group or running for political office.
- **Cultural competency**: The ability to interact effectively with people of all backgrounds, especially those who come from a different background from yourself. This includes being respectful of different beliefs and practices. It also includes communicating in a way that the other person can understand (i.e. language, reading level).
- **Diverse backgrounds**: People who have a broad range of interests, backgrounds, and experiences. They could be from different racial or ethnic backgrounds, speak different languages, or come from different places. They may have different education levels, income levels, or ability levels. They may even practice different religions (or no religion at all). The diversity of a group within the community should reflect the makeup of the community itself.
- **Policy development**: Any time a community or other governing body is developing a policy for the community, This may include putting together a budget, developing an ordinance or resolution, or creating official rules or other internal policies. Considering the health impacts of all policies is called a “Health in All Policies” approach. There are tools such as a health impact assessment that can help groups figure out what the health impacts of any policy may be.

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY CONTEXT

- **Proactive law enforcement**: A way of policing a community that tries to prevent and reduce crime rather than reacting to crimes that have already happened. This is usually done by showing a police presence in the community through patrols, especially foot and bicycle patrols. It also involves building relationships in the community and engaging the public to learn what their concerns are. Community residents should know and trust the police officers in their community and feel comfortable going to them with issues or problems for them to solve.
- **Social cohesion**: The bonds that help maintain stability in a community. It promotes a sense of belonging for people and acceptance for all community members. It can increase trust among residents and offers residents a sense of community.

HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE

- **Domestic violence**: Violent or aggressive behavior within the home. The violence could be physical (hitting, cutting, smacking) or psychological (controlling, yelling, lying). It usually involved the abuse of a spouse or partner.
- **Drug addiction services**: Services designed to help people who are addicted to drugs. This may include harm reduction programs, treatment programs, support groups for those who are addicted and their families, and other services.
- **Medicaid**: Health care provided by the federal government that is available to low-income people or families or people with certain disabilities. It is available only to citizens or legal permanent residents of the United States.
- **Medicare**: Health care provided by the federal government that is available to those age 65 and older. Some people younger than 65 may qualify for Medicare if they have certain chronic illnesses or permanent disabilities.
- **Mental health services**: Services designed to help people who are struggling with mental health issues. This may include support lines or hotlines, counseling, support groups, and other services.
- **Protect a woman's right to breastfeed**: In Ohio, a woman is legally allowed to breastfeed her child in any location where she is allowed to be. She cannot be asked or forced to leave, move, or cover up.
- **Indoor public places**: Any indoor space where the public is allowed to be. This may include bars, restaurants, shopping malls, retail stores, or indoor play spaces.
- **Outdoor public places**: Any outdoor space where the public is allowed to be. This may include parking lots, parks, playgrounds, ball fields, public pools, or green spaces.

HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE

- **Smoke-free policy 24/7:** A policy that keeps people from smoking. This policy is in place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In Ohio indoor public places are covered by the Ohio Smoke Free Workplace Law.
- **Tobacco cessation programs:** Programs that help people quit smoking. They may be one-on-one or group classes. Some are online only. Others take place at a location like a community room or church. They may be free or have a fee. Sometimes health insurance will pay any or all cost.
- **Tobacco-free policy 24/7:** A policy that keeps people from using any tobacco products. This policy is in place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

NEIGHBORHOOD AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- **Americans with Disabilities Act:** Protects people living with disabilities. It also protects people no matter their race, color, sex, age, religion, or where they come from. It makes sure people living with disabilities have the same access to public spaces, jobs, buses, sidewalks, and state and local government services as everyone else.
- **Complete streets:** Streets that allow everyone to use them, no matter how they move around. They work well for those who drive cars or motorcycles, ride public buses, walk or ride bikes. They are also safe for all users including people living with disabilities.
- **Developments:** Any type of new building that is being done. It can be residential (a new sub-division going in), commercial (a new business or office building), or educational (a new school).
- **Food retailers:** Any place that sells food. This may include grocery stores, corner stores, convenience stores, farmers markets, farm stands or other places that sell food.
- **Healthy food and beverage option:** Healthy foods are fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and nonfat and low-fat dairy products. They are limited to 200 calories or less per portion or package. Healthy drinks are plain water, low-fat and nonfat milk, 100% fruit juice and caffeine-free drinks. Learn more at: <https://health.gov/dietaryguidelines/2015/guidelines/>.
- **Land use plan:** A plan to regulate how land in a community is used and prevent conflicts. This can be a comprehensive plan, a master plan, or some other plan that deals with land use.
- **Reasonable walking distance:** One mile.
- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):** The program that used to be known as Food Stamps. It provides money for low income families to buy food to eat. The program does not allow recipients to purchase alcohol, tobacco, or ready to eat food (e.g. food from a restaurant).
- **Women, Infants and Children (WIC):** A program from the federal government that helps low-income women and young children buy certain foods. With the WIC farmer's market vouchers (Farmers' Market checks) people can buy fresh fruits and vegetables at approved locations throughout the country.