

## **MDH Launches New Interactive Maps**

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has developed new interactive maps for asthma hospitalizations and childhood lead poisoning (see Minnesota Public Health Data Access News & Updates) [hyperlink text to:

<https://apps.health.state.mn.us/mndata/announcements>

Local public health professionals and others may use these maps to compare county and state data -- to inform public health planning, assessment and action. Minnesota Public Health Data Access provides a one-stop shop for access to health and environment data.

“Interactive maps are powerful tools to inform public health actions and priorities” says Julie Ring, Director for the Local Public Health Association of Minnesota. “Local health departments may use these new maps to assess actions to prevent asthma and childhood lead poisoning.”

Maps and data on this web site may be downloaded in different formats for use in spreadsheets, reports, and presentations. By summer 2012 MDH will implement new features on the site, including an interactive glossary, users’ guide, and maps on additional health topics.

MN Public Health Data Access is updated and maintained by the Minnesota Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (MN EPHT) [link text to: <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/hpcd/tracking/index.html>] through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Data for these maps are prepared in collaboration with the MDH Lead and Asthma Programs.

To view new interactive maps, go to:

- Asthma: <https://apps.health.state.mn.us/mndata/asthma>
- Childhood blood lead poisoning: <https://apps.health.state.mn.us/mndata/lead>