

State of Illinois

Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor

Department of Public Health

Damon T. Arnold, M.D., M.P.H., Director



Illinois Arthritis Data Report

The Burden of Arthritis in Illinois in 2005

December 2007

Acknowledgements

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To learn more about the Illinois Arthritis Initiative contact the Illinois Department of Public Health, Arthritis Program at 217-782-3300, TTY 800-547-0466.

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525-535 West Jefferson Street • Springfield, Illinois 62761-0001 • www.idph.state.il.us

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Dear Colleague:

On behalf of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Health Promotion, Division of Chronic Disease Prevention and Control, I am pleased to share with you the "Illinois Arthritis Data Report: The Burden of Arthritis in 2005."

Arthritis is the leading cause of disability and affects the quality of life of the person with this condition. It is estimated that there are 2.35 million Illinois adults with doctor diagnosed arthritis, who make up about 25 percent of the Illinois adult population. This report will be utilized to increase awareness of arthritis as a public health issue and provide direction for future program planning.

The Department's Arthritis Program and the combined efforts of many partners provided the information for this report. It represents a coordinated approach to assess arthritis and other related health outcomes, such as physical activity and obesity from the Illinois Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System for the year 2005.

The Department would like to extend its sincere appreciation to those who served on the planning committee and contributed time and expertise to the development of this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Damon T. Arnold, M.D., M.P.H." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Damon T. Arnold, M.D., M.P.H.
Director

