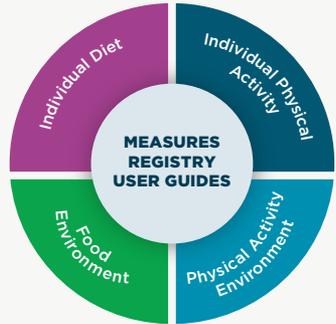


MEASURES REGISTRY, USER GUIDES, AND LEARNING MODULES A SUITE OF RESOURCES FOR PROFESSORS

Looking for tools and resources designed and developed by other experts in the field to make research and teaching easier? Look no further than NCCOR's Measures Registry, User Guides, and Learning modules—a suite of free tools that can support faculty within and outside of the classroom. The Measures Registry is an online database of articles with measures of individual diet and physical activity and their environments, and the User Guides and Learning Modules provide an overview of measurement and describe general principles of measure selection.



THIS SUITE OF TOOLS:

- Provides overviews of measurement selection for diet, physical activity, and their environments that can be used to enhance classroom learning
- Offers teaching slides for each of the four domains to help incorporate key principles of measurement into your classroom lectures
- Includes interactive video modules that can be completed in about 10 minutes each
- Incorporates easily into any syllabus from suggested readings in the User Guides to assigned online learning modules
- Assists students embarking on research projects

The case study on the following page is an example of how the Measures Registry suite of tools can be useful in the classroom.



CASE STUDY CLASS ASSIGNMENT: COMPARING MEASURES OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ENVIRONMENT IN A LOCAL PARK.

Background

You are teaching a class on urban design and the effects on health outcomes. For the final project, you assign each of your students a local park in Philadelphia and ask them to think about the most appropriate ways to evaluate the physical activity environment. The students must find two different measures of the physical activity environment and compare what each measure is trying to assess.

Considerations

You emphasize populations as one of the key considerations. For example, various measures may be better suited towards different age groups. Students also need to consider the feasibility of performing an assessment in their prospective environment. How much time is needed to gather the data and what kind of training is needed to perform the assessment?

Measure Selection

In selecting the best tool for evaluating the physical activity environment, the students filter the Measures Registry options to “Physical Activity Environment” and types “parks” into the search field. Approximately 26 results are shown. Three results are immediately ruled out because they are not measures designed for urban areas. The student narrows down the selection to the top six Measures: Neighborhood Health Resources Surveys, Pedestrian Environmental Data Scan (PEDS), Physical Activity Resource Assessment (PARA), The Path Environment Audit Tool (PEAT), Twelve Button Counter for Park Observations of Physical Activity, and Urban Design Qualities Measurement Protocols.

Students then can use the Compare tool to further define their measure selection. Because the students do not have access to the instruments, the Neighborhood Health Resources Surveys and the Twelve Button Counter for Park Observations of Physical Activity are ruled out. Urban Design Qualities Measurement Protocols are also ruled out for time and cost feasibilities. Finally, PARA is ruled out because the study primarily focused on low-income/low-SES which was not the reflective of the students’ selected neighborhood. Ultimately, PEDS and PEAT are selected for comparison for this assignment.