# **SWIMMING UPSTREAM: DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE METHODS** FOR TRANSLATING BIOMONITORING DATA FOR THE PUBLIC

Emmy Wollenburg MPH, Krista Christensen PhD, Michelle Raymond MS, Brooke Thompson MPH and Jon Meiman MD University of Wisconsin Department of Population Health Sciences and the Wisconsin Division of Public Health

#### INFOGRAPHICS



Use visual representations of data and information to encourage more complete understanding of complex concepts



Help participants better grasp trends and comparisons between personal and group level results



Use images to make data accessible for individuals with minimal health literacy



Have proven to be a cost effective communication tool



### **PROJECT PROCESS**



Infographics summarizing study results from 3 projects were created using Piktochart, a freely available online software program

Data displayed included:

- Fish consumption habits
- Mercury Levels
- **PCB** Levels
- Vitamin D Levels

Each infographic included a comparison of study participants to similar results for the US population

Infographics were distributed either via email or US mail to project participants

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES | DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH | BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH Questions and comments can be sent to dhsfishstudy@wi.gov

## **INFOGRAPHIC EXAMPLES**



#### CONCLUSIONS

We found infographics to be an effective method of communicating complex health information, including biomonitoring results. Participant response to these materials has been universally positive.

Using graphics and imagery to convey complex information including fish consumption advisories has increased the accessibility of this information.

