



Director's Report

Patrick Dowd, PhD
ACHD Acting Director





Projects of note

- COVID-19 three year report
- Plumbing virtual inspections
- H₂S dashboard
- Fish fry season
- Article VI revisions in progress
- Public health laboratory update
- Ongoing recruitment efforts
- Grants (supporting work in the community)
 - BOLD grant
 - REACH grant
 - OD2A grant
 - Environmental health grants



Medical Director's Report

Barbara Nightingale, MD
Deputy Director for Clinical Services





Outline

- COVID-19 update
- Flu and RSV updates
- Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) - Health Advisories

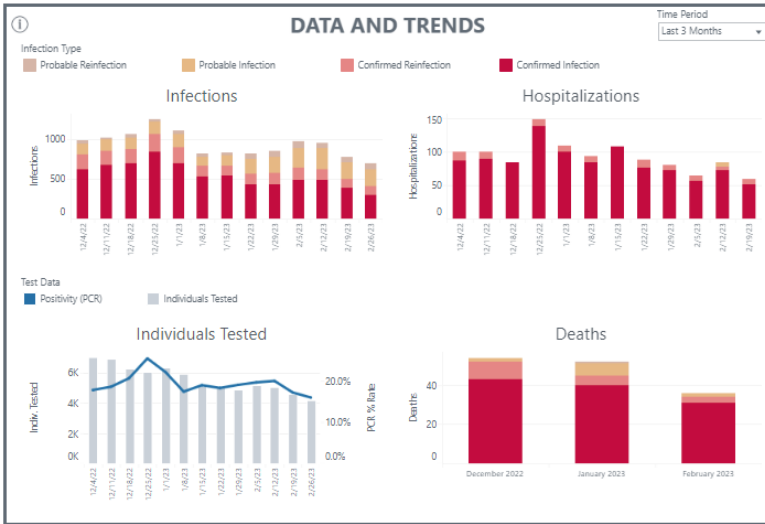


① **OVERALL**

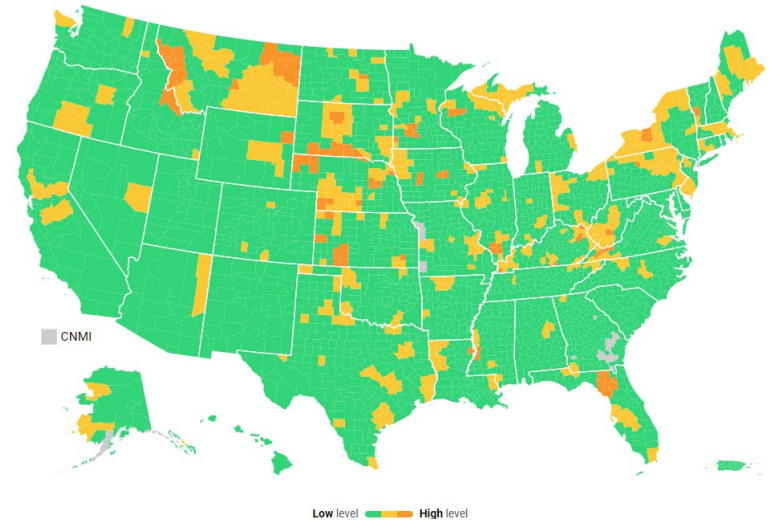
Infections: 339,915	Individuals Tested: 1,000,478	Positivity (PCR): 12.1%	Hospitalizations: 17,601	Deaths: 3,733
-------------------------------	---	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------	-------------------------

① **7-DAY MOVING AVERAGE**

Infections: 102	Individuals Tested: 640	Positivity (PCR): 17.5%	Hospitalizations: 5	Deaths: 0
---------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------



Last Updated:
3/9/2023 10:05:09 AM



<https://covidactnow.org/?s=44703216>

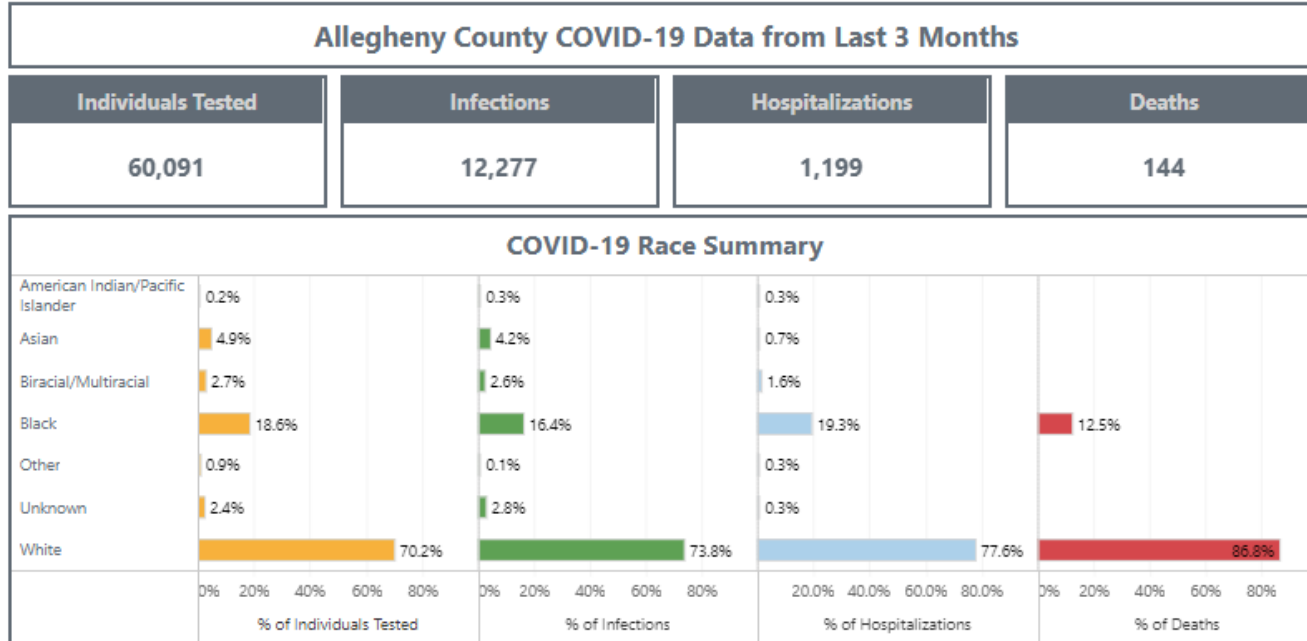
● Low

In Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, community level is Low.

[COVID-19 by County | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19/by-county/)



Hospitalizations and deaths



LAST DATA REFRESH: 3/10/2023 10:07:16 AM



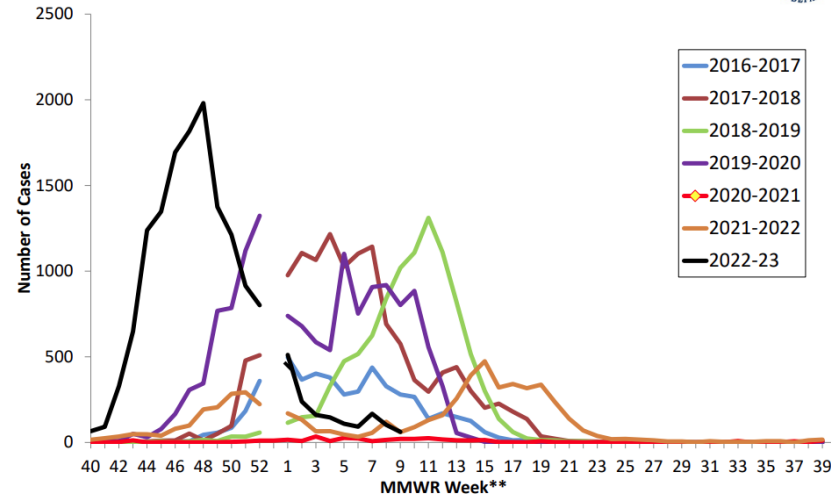
Vaccination rates

Race	Completed Primary Series Rate %	Bivalent Booster Rate (%)
Asian & Pacific Islander	83.5%	19.9%
Black/African American	58.2%	12.4%
Native American	65.8%	12.7%
White	68.7%	21.1%
Age Group		
0-4	12.0%	2.5%
5-9	44.6%	8.5%
10-19	55.3%	9.4%
20-29	68.9%	10.6%
30-39	71.7%	15.7%
40-49	71.4%	17.8%
50-59	74.1%	22.2%
60-69	84.3%	37.2%
70+	87.6%	41.7%

Last updated March 6, 2023

Influenza (Flu)

Lab-Confirmed* Cases of Influenza in Allegheny County
2016-17 Flu Season to 2022-23 Flu Season
October 2, 2022 – March 4, 2023



*Lab-confirmed is a positive antigen, culture, or PCR test
Source: PA-NEDSS

**MMWR Week does not fall on the same dates every year. MMWR weeks last from Sunday through Saturday and usually range from 1 to 52. Depending on how the days of the week fall across years, it is possible to occasionally have a Week 53

Current Flu Season vs. Past Flu Seasons*

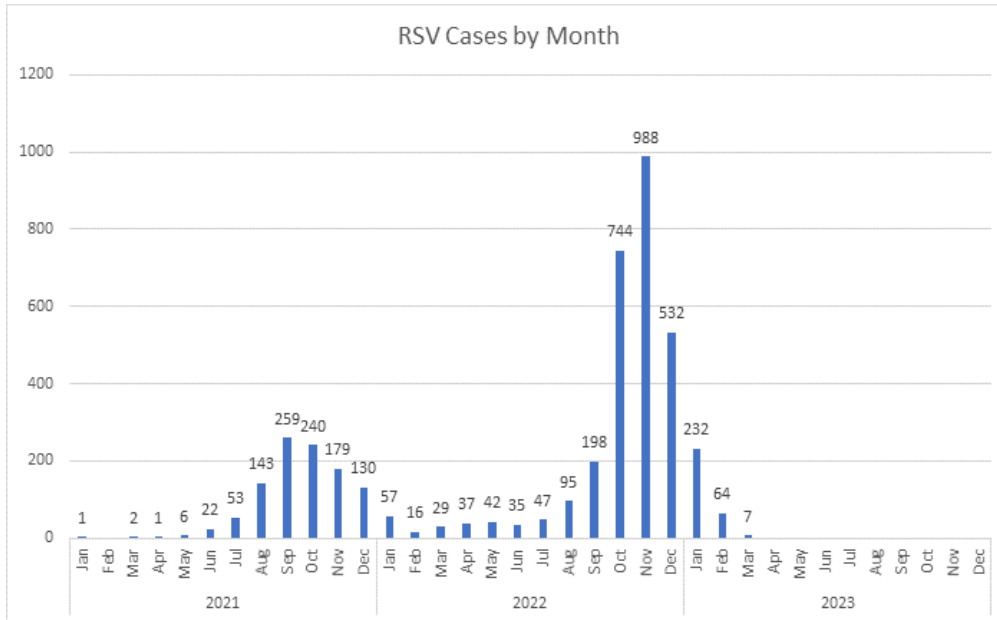
	2019-20 Flu Season reported by March 7, 2020	2020-21 Flu Season reported by March 6, 2021	2021-22 Flu Season reported by March 5, 2022	2022-23 Flu Season reported by March 4, 2023
Number of cumulative cases**	12,577	216	2,308	15,104
Number of cumulative hospitalizations	146	3	21	67
Number of cumulative deaths	26	1	4	22

*Data here reflect cases reported to PA-NEDSS

**A case is defined as testing positive via an antigen, culture, or PCR test

[Current Weekly Flu Data \(alleghenycounty.us\)](http://alleghenycounty.us)

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)



Cumulative RSV Cases for 2022-23 October 2, 2022 - March 7, 2023		
Hospitalized		
Yes	25	1.0%
No	2,325	90.6%
Unknown	217	8.5%
Total	2,567	
Death		
Yes	3	0.1%
No	2,348	91.4%
Unknown	-	0.0%
Blank	217	8.5%
Total	2,568	



PA DOH: Possible increases in Group A streptococcal infections

- Group A streptococcal infections
 - Commonly: causes mild illnesses
 - Uncommonly: causes severe illness - invasive Group A strep (iGAS) infection
- Summary of event
 - Possible increase in iGAS infections among children
 - Suspected: increase is return to pre-pandemic levels
- What to do?
 - Stay up to date with flu and varicella (chickenpox) vaccines
 - Learn about the symptoms and seek medical care quickly for symptoms of iGAS infections¹
- ACHD
 - Investigations of iGAS clusters



PA DOH: Increase in Extensively Drug-Resistant Shigellosis in US

- Shigellosis
 - Inflammatory diarrhea caused by Shigella bacteria
 - Extensively Drug-Resistant (XDR) Shigella - resistant to all commonly recommended antibiotics
- Summary of event
 - Increase in XDR Shigella infections
 - No XDR Shigella cases identified in PA (as of January 2023)
- What to do?
 - Follow recommendations of health care provider if diagnosed with Shigella to prevent the spread
 - Learn about Shigella infection and steps to prevent infection¹
- ACHD
 - Monitor for XDR Shigella cases and report XDR case investigations to CDC



PA DOH: East Palestine Train Derailment Clinical Considerations

- Summary of event
 - Norfolk Southern train derailed in East Palestine, Ohio on February 3, 2023
 - Five of 53 cars contained vinyl chloride (others contained chemicals of concern)
 - Air levels did not exceed health-based thresholds for short-term exposure
- What to do?
 - Allegheny County is outside of affected area (2-mile radius of derailment)
 - Learn about the train derailment online¹
- ACHD
 - Air quality monitors can measure many air pollutants (i.e. benzene and vinyl chloride)
 - Monitors have not measured a change in air quality since train derailment



Data Reporting and Disease Control

**LuAnn Brink, PhD
Chief Epidemiologist**





COVID-19 three-year update

- Recognize those who contributed to the response to the pandemic
 - Emergency Services Department
 - Human Services Department
 - Medical Examiner Department
 - Public Safety Department
 - Federal and state partners
 - Frontline workers
 - Medical Reserve Corps
- Number of cases, hospitalizations and deaths
- Testing program
- Case investigation
- Community outreach
- Vaccination efforts

Transition to national home test portal



Allegheny County Health Department

🌐 Español



Report COVID at-home test results to help your community.

You can report negative or positive tests for yourself or any member of your family.

What was your at-home test result?

 Positive

 Negative



Your answers are anonymous, secure, and cannot be traced back to you.

Community Indicators

Explore the Allegheny Community Indicators by [clicking here](#) or on a specific category below. (Refresh this page to view different indicators.)



Mammogram in Past 2 Years: 50-74
(Compared to PA Counties)



Persons with Public Health Insurance Only
(Compared to PA State Value)



Number of Extreme Precipitation Days
(Compared to Prior Value)



Projected Food Insecurity Rate (Compared to PA Counties)



Pneumonia Vaccinations: Medicare Population
(Compared to PA Counties)

Allegheny County Community Health Indicators

The Bureau of Data Reporting and Disease Control (BRDC) produces reports using surveillance data that include Vital Statistics (births, death, cancer, Reportable Diseases, COVID-19, hepatitis, foodborne disease), and hospitalizations. You can find links to our reports and analyses below. In addition, we provide limited data including COVID-19 cases, births and deaths, and other data at the Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center (search for ACHDC). If you are unable to locate the information in which you are interested, please consider submitting a data request. Your request may be limited to research purposes and subject to the terms of a legally binding data use agreement.

Recent Reports

Scroll to view recent data reports from ACHD on topics such as chronic disease, maternal health, infectious diseases, and overdose.



2021 Air Quality Annual Report
The Hazards of Progress 1/2



2021 Allegheny County Reported Cases of Sexually Transmitted Diseases 1/2



Hepatitis B and C Report 2014-2017 1/2



Acute Care Discharge Dashboard
Allegheny County, January 2016 to June 2022

Community Health Dashboards

Learn about your community's health and wellness. Compare indicators for your community against state averages, county values, and target goals. Discover areas of excellence and improvement in your community.

Advanced Search

We found the following indicators:

- Adults who Experienced a Heart Attack, Coronary Heart Disease, or a Stroke
- Adults who Experienced a Stroke
- Adults who Experienced Coronary Heart Disease
- Adults who Visited a Cardiologist
- Age-Adjusted Death Rate Due to Heart Attack
- Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rate Due to Heart Attack
- Residents who Received Cardiology Medical Services
- Adults who Bought Medications for High Blood Pressure
- Adults who Used State Medications for High Blood Pressure
- Age-Adjusted Death Rate Due to Cardiovascular Disease (Stroke) (2 year)
- Age-Adjusted Death Rate Due to Heart Disease
- Annual Fluorination: Medicare Population
- High Cholesterol Prevalence: Adults: Life
- Access to Exercise Opportunities
- Adults (20+) who are Sedentary
- Adults (20+) who are Obese
- Adults at Risk for Heavy Drinking
- Adults who Follow a Regular Exercise Routine
- Annual Potable Fluorination
- Area Deprivation Index: National Rank
- Area Deprivation Index: State Rank
- Children who are Obese: Grades K-6
- Children who are Obese: Grades 7-12
- Depression: Medicare Population
- Recreation and Fitness Facilities
- Teens who are Obese
- Teens who are Overweight or Obese



All Data
This dashboard contains data for all indicators at all locations.



Demographics Dashboard
The demographic dashboard includes basic demographic information about your community covering topics like population, education and poverty.

County
Census Tracts (CITs)
Zip Codes
Municipalities
State

SELECT A COMPARISON

Grouped
 Allegheny, PA County Value
 PA State Value
 Prior Value
 PHA 2023 2027 Goal

0.0

0.0 - 150.0

150.0 - 200.0

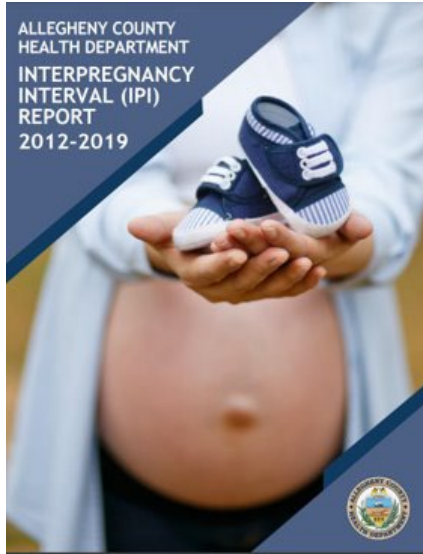
200.0 - 248.0

248.0 - 347.0

Deaths per 100,000 population

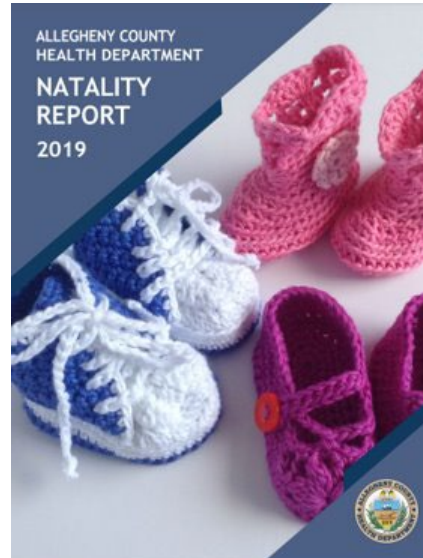
Zip Code	Source	Measurement Period	Deaths per 100,000 population
15006	Allegheny County Health Department, Bureau of Data, Reporting, and Disease Control	2020	0.0
15020	Allegheny County Health Department, Bureau of Data, Reporting, and Disease Control	2020	0.0
15028	Allegheny County Health Department, Bureau of Data, Reporting, and Disease Control	2020	0.0
15038	Allegheny County Health Department, Bureau of Data, Reporting, and Disease Control	2020	0.0
15047	Allegheny County Health Department, Bureau of Data, Reporting, and Disease Control	2020	0.0
15064	Allegheny County Health Department, Bureau of Data, Reporting, and Disease Control	2020	0.0
15075	Allegheny County Health Department, Bureau of Data, Reporting, and Disease Control	2020	0.0

Birth outcome reports



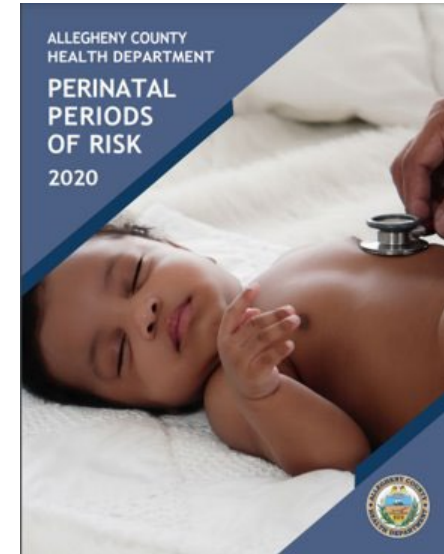
Goal: Compare county residents' birth spacing to national rates

Data: Birth certificates



Goal: Analyze trends in birth risk factors and outcomes

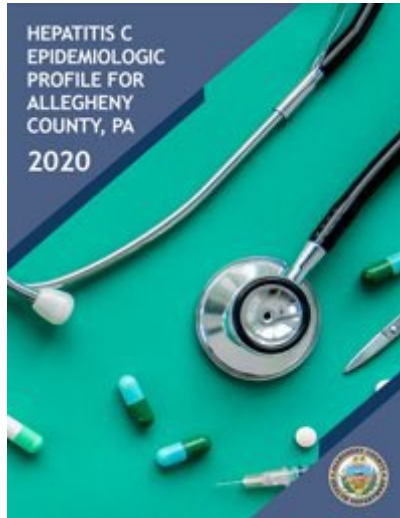
Data: Birth certificates



Goal: Determine risk factors for fetal and infant death

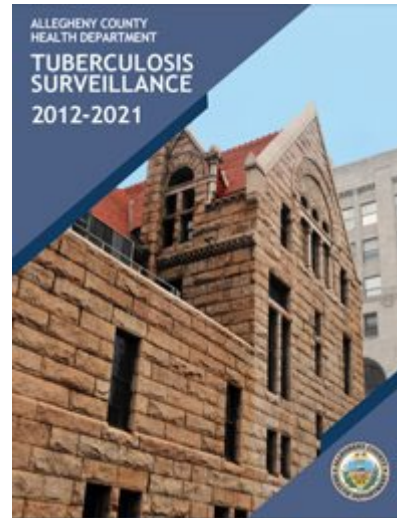
Data: Birth certificates, fetal death certificates, death certificates

Infectious disease reports



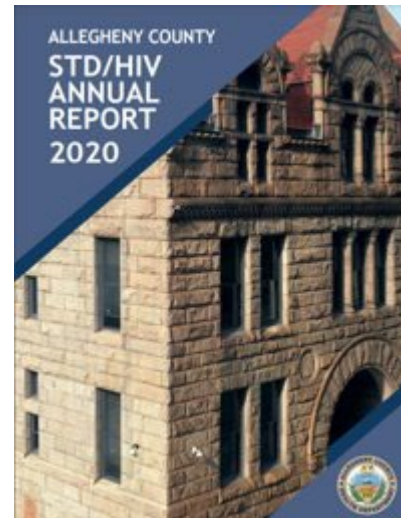
Goal: Describe the burden of Hepatitis C, disparities and barriers to testing and treatment

Data: Hospitalization, reportable disease data, annual provider survey



Goal: Describe burden of tuberculosis and risk factors

Data: Reportable disease data and case investigation



Goal: Describe the burden of sexually transmitted infections and risk factors

Data: Reportable disease data and case investigation



Goal: Describe the number of animal bites and how they are treated

Data: Reportable disease data



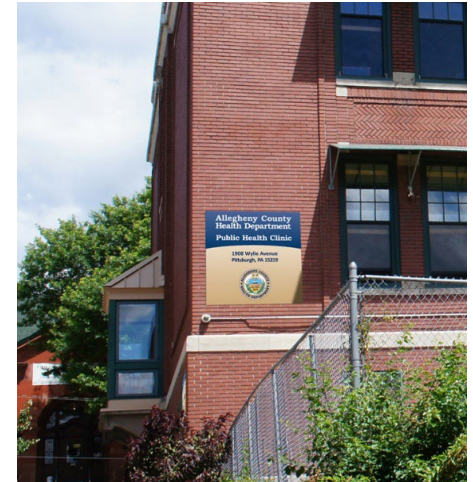
Clinical Bureau Report

Barbara Nightingale, MD
Deputy Director for Clinical Services
March 22, 2023



Programs

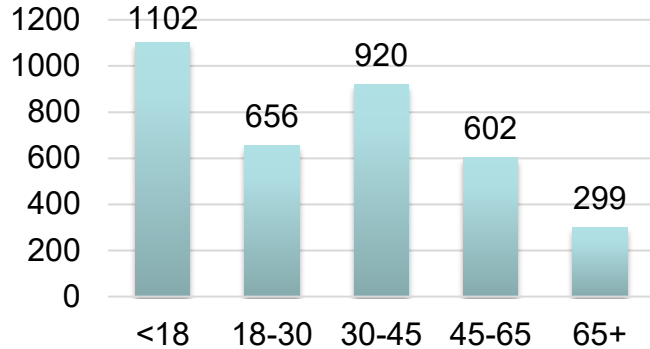
- Immunization
- Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)/HIV
- Tuberculosis
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Emergency Preparedness and Response



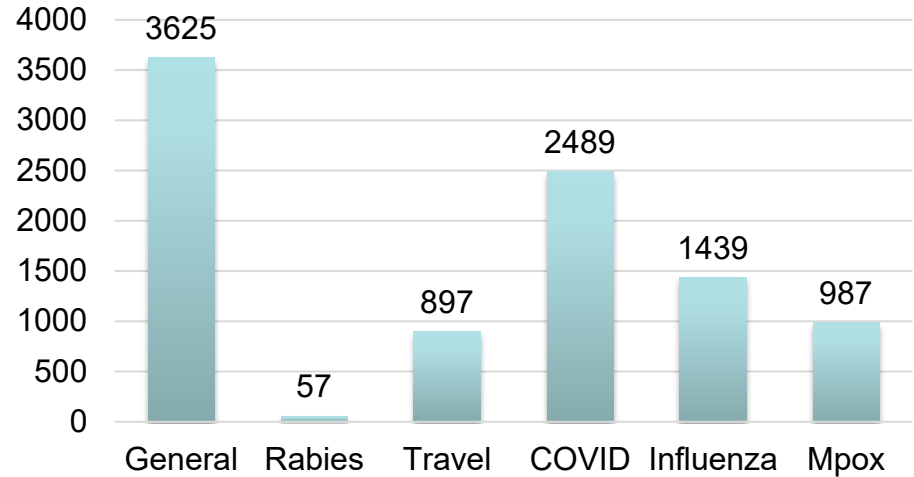


Immunization Program (July-December 2022)

Patient Age in Years



Immunizations Administered



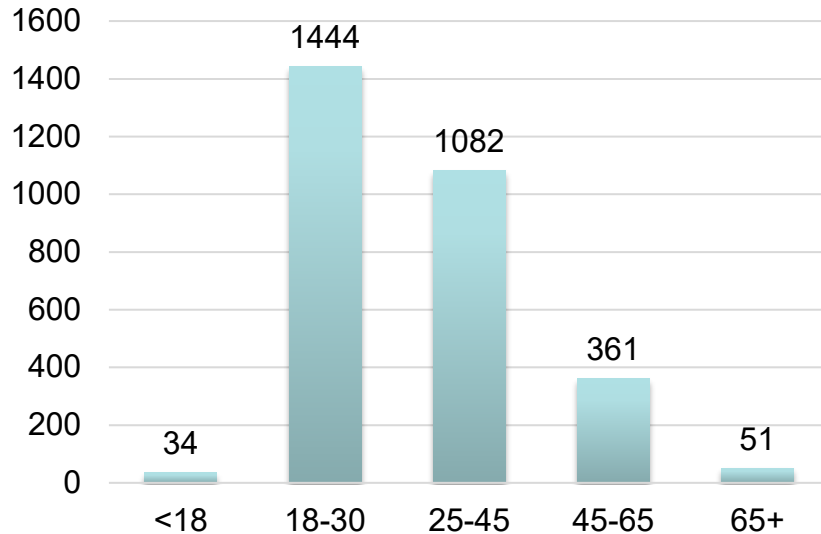
Reason(s) for Visit

	# of Patients
Immunization	3,435
Travel Consult	253
Titer	89



STI/HIV Program (July-December 2022)

Patient Age in Years



Reason(s) for Visit

	# of Patients
Screening for STIs	2,629
Contact to STI	395
Gonorrhea	164
Chlamydia	149
Trichomoniasis	57
Non-Gonococcal Urethritis	51
Syphilis	44
Genital Warts	42
Herpes	19
Mpox	10
Other	125



Additional Public Health Activities

- Strengthening US Response to Resistant Gonorrhea Grant (SURRG)
 - Partnership with Public Health Lab and PA DOH
 - Monitor, test and rapidly respond to resistant gonorrhea
- Mpox
 - Jynneos vaccine administration and distribution
 - TPOXX distribution
- At-home STI testing
 - Partnership with Color Health, Hilltop Pharmacy and Pitt
 - Expand testing and treatment access for gonorrhea and chlamydia



Request to Public Comment: Air Quality Program's Article XXI Amendments

Geoff Rabinowitz, DPA

Deputy Director of Environmental Health





Amendment change process (to date)

- Process began in April 2022
 - Air Pollution Advisory Committee - 6 meetings
 - Regulation Subcommittee - 2 meetings
 - Board of Health Meeting - 1 presentation
- Nine iterations of proposed amendments
- Special meeting Air Pollution Advisory Committee (March 13, 2023)
 - Provided 2021 and 2022 end of year actuals, as well as proposed 2023 budget
 - Voted to recommend to the BOH to proceed to public comment



Request to go to public comment

- Recommending proposed amendment go to public comment for more feedback
- Change will partially address long-term budget concerns, which will be addressed in a multi-faceted approach:
 - Assess metric-level programmatic costs in 2023 and based on results, determine further actions that may need to be taken
 - Provide the ability to temporarily utilize additional Clean Air Funds for operational costs



Clean Air Fund Amendment

§2109.09.c.2

A. For calendar years 2023 - 2026, an amount, no greater than 25 percent of the balance of the Clean Air Fund on December 31st of the previous calendar year or \$1,250,000, whichever amount is less, may be used to fund the normal operating costs of the County's Air Quality Program.

B. After calendar year 2026, an amount, no greater than five percent of the balance of the Clean Air Fund on December 31st of the previous calendar year, may be used to fund the normal operating costs of the County's Air Quality Program.



Clean Air Fund Amendment

§2109.09.d.2

In support of a request for disbursement for normal operating costs under Paragraph c.2, the Air Quality Program shall provide a Program budget summary including revenue streams and the operational costs of the Program which the requested funds will go to support.



Enforcement Amendment

§2109.07.b.3. All penalties, fines, interest, and other funds received by the County under this Article as a result of consent orders, noncompliance penalties, civil penalty actions, consent decrees, civil penalties, or summary proceedings, other than such funds provided for under paragraph 1 above, shall be paid into the Allegheny County Clean Air Fund; **with the exception of “the costs of the Department” pursuant to §2109.06.b.1. which shall be paid into the Allegheny County Air Pollution Control Fund.**



Vote to approve: Article II Update

Otis Pitts

**Deputy Director – ACHD Bureau of Food
Safety, Housing & Policy**





Overview of proposed revisions

- Modernizes terms and definitions
 - Reflect on-going infectious disease crisis and incorporate harm reduction principles
 - Definitions that reflect current public health best practices
- Clarifies administrative requirements
 - New “Application and Approval Process” section clarifies responsibilities of syringe services program (SSP) operator and ACHD
 - Clarifies the content of SSP applications, including the need for municipal engagement prior to review by the Board of Health



Overview of proposed revisions

- Clarifies reporting requirements
 - Reflect current recommended practice, as well as expanded infectious disease requirements
 - Ability to report on complimentary harm reduction services
- Sets process for decisions regarding non-compliance
 - Role of the BOH in making determinations to the status of SSPs
 - Specifies the ability of municipalities to bring grievances to the BOH
 - Responsibilities of the ACHD to provide notice to non-compliant SSPs



Public comment period overview

- The public comment period was held November 21, 2022-January 20, 2023
- Two members of the public gave oral testimony at the public hearing on January 19, 2023
- Seven additional written comments were submitted