



[LucasCountyHealth.com](http://LucasCountyHealth.com)

2024

# ANNUAL

# REPORT



# LETTER FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

Dear Community,

**Your health and well-being are at the heart of everything we do.** Public health is more than a service—it's a commitment to protect, promote, and enhance the health of every individual and family in our community. Guided by the 10 Essential Public Health Services, we remain dedicated to ensuring a healthier, safer future for all. It is with great excitement and honor that I present to you the **Toledo-Lucas County Health Department's 2024 Annual Report**. The pages of this report provide an overview of how we're working for you.

2024 was a year of transition in many ways. We fully moved beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, realigned our services to better meet community needs, and I had the privilege of stepping into my role as the newest public servant on staff. Our focus has expanded beyond traditional public health programs to address policies and systemic changes that impact the root causes of health disparities. Through cross-sector collaboration and the Chief Health Strategist model, we are working to create lasting improvements in community health. This strategic shift was intentional, guided by the adoption of our agency's **Strategic Plan** and the three-year **Community Health Improvement Plan**, both designed to address local health priorities. Our partnerships with the community and other organizations have never been more vital as we work together to drive positive change. Our unwavering commitment to your health and well-being has remained constant, as well as the dedication of our incredible staff, whose compassionate service I am immensely proud of.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are poised to elevate public health in Toledo and Lucas County to new heights. Our goals include maintaining the national accreditation we proudly achieved in 2020, strengthening local and regional collaborations, expanding essential services, and leveraging local investments with state and federal grant funding. I am eager to see how 2025 propels us toward becoming one of the healthiest communities in Ohio.

Public health is often described as "the greatest story never told," and I encourage you to explore this report to gain a deeper understanding of the vital work being done to protect and improve our community's health.

In closing, I want to express my sincere gratitude to our District Advisory Council, our Board of Health for their leadership, our dedicated staff for their selfless service, our community partners for their collaboration, and our elected officials for their ongoing support. It is through these strong relationships that we can continue making a meaningful impact.

Respectfully submitted,



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karim Baroudi". The signature is stylized and cursive.

**Karim Baroudi, MPH, REHS**  
Public Health Commissioner

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members of Our Community,

We, the people, in our first words of both the Ohio and US constitution state we created our government to secure the blessings of our liberty and to promote the common welfare of our fellow citizens. It is our job in Public Health to help create, secure and promote the social, physical, financial and environmental living conditions that allow all of us to thrive.

Health is essential to human productivity and the joy of living. Those of us in public health know that the social, physical, financial and environmental conditions in which people live, work, learn and play are as important to our health as the medical care we receive. Most health policy experts agree that millions of lives and billions of medical care dollars can be saved by evidence-based public health programs which invest in efforts to improve these social conditions. This is what we strive for every day at TLCHD, on your behalf.

As we navigate through the complexities of our daily lives, it's essential we remain informed, proactive, and supportive of initiatives that enhance the health of our community, as we work together to prevent, protect, and promote a safe and healthy environment for everyone.

Public health is about more than just preventing disease; it is about fostering healthy environments. Our work encompasses a wide range of activities, from conducting inspections and developing policies to implementing evidence-based programs to promote healthy lifestyles.

As demonstrated during the COVID pandemic, our dedicated staff were on the front lines when the community relied on us for testing or immunizations. Whether it's a natural disaster, an infectious disease outbreak, or a man-made crisis, public health coordinates response efforts to protect our community.

A cornerstone of public health is promoting individuals to adopt healthier lifestyles. From stigma reduction, breastfeeding promotion, asthma awareness, and healthy food choices, public health guides individuals to make informed choices. These efforts not only improve quality of life but also reduce the healthcare burden.

To continue strengthening our public health capacity, we must understand the non-medical factors that influence health outcomes- social determinants of health (SDOH). There's a growing recognition of the relationship between neighborhoods and health, with zip code understood to be a stronger predictor of a person's health than their genetic code. TLCHD strives to improve the community's health outcomes through a broad range of programming.

We must continue advocating for policies that prioritize public health and stay informed about health issues affecting us all. Investing in public health is investing in the future of our community. We contribute to a healthier, more resilient society when we support public health initiatives.

In conclusion, public health work is indispensable to our collective well-being. It is a shared responsibility requiring a strong collaboration between individuals, communities, and governments. Let us all commit to supporting public health efforts and working together to build a more healthy, just and prosperous future for everyone.



**Dr. Johnathon Ross**

President, Toledo-Lucas County Board of Health 2024

2024 PRESIDENT

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# THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Local health departments foster community health and safety through the 10 Essential Public Health Services (EPHS), which guide policy, system, and environmental improvements with a focus on health equity. These services address both structural barriers and health disparities. The framework is organized around three core functions:



TLCHD collaborates across government, public, and private sectors to create conditions for optimal health. This report highlights programmatic examples of EPHS, reflecting the dedication of our public health staff. Organized into seven departments, TLCHD upholds the core functions of an accredited health department while strengthening its foundational capabilities.



WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?

# BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)

The TLCHD Board of Health is responsible for appointing the Health Commissioner, establishing policies and enforcing orders and regulations essential for promoting public health, preventing disease, and mitigating public nuisances.

The Toledo-Lucas County Board of Health consists of 12 members representing different areas of the county. Board of Health members are appointed by the five city mayors and District Advisory Council (DAC), which is comprised of elected officials representing the townships and villages. At least one member of the TLCHD board must be a qualified physician, and all members must reside in the jurisdiction they represent.

## Governance

The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department operates under the governance of the Board of Health, as stipulated by Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3709.07.

Appointment Term:  
4 years

Meetings per year: 12

Standard Meeting  
Day/Time:  
4th Thursday  
each month.



**Johnathon Ross, MD**  
President  
District Advisory Council



**Barbara Ann Sarantou**  
Vice President  
City of Toledo



**Cheryl Crowder, RN, BSN**  
City of Toledo



**Amr Elaskary**  
District Advisory Council



**Sonia Flunder-McNair**  
City of Toledo



**Ted Kaczorowski**  
City of Waterville



**David Karmol**  
District Advisory Council



**Richard L. Munk, MD**  
City of Sylvania



**Paul J. Komisarek**  
District Advisory Council



**Susan Postal, EMT-P**  
City of Toledo

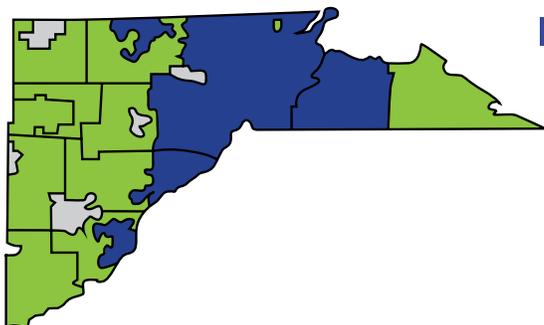


**Matthew Sapara**  
City of Oregon



**Donna Woodson, MD**  
City of Maumee

## WHO WE SERVE



- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <span style="color: blue;">■</span> <b>CITIES</b> | <span style="color: gray;">■</span> <b>VILLAGES</b> | <span style="color: green;">■</span> <b>TOWNSHIPS</b> |
| Maumee  | Berkey  | Harding   |
| Oregon  | Harbor View   | Springfield   |
| Sylvania  | Ottawa Hills  | Swanton   |
| Toledo  | Holland   | Jerusalem   |
| Waterville  | Swanton   | Monclova  |
|   | Whitehouse  | Providence  |
|   |   | Richfield   |
|   |   | Spencer   |
|   |   | Washington  |
|   |   | Waterville  |

# DEPARTMENTS & PROGRAMS

## CHILDHOOD WELLNESS

Breastfeeding Support  
Childhood Youth Wellness  
Creating Healthy Communities  
Cribs for Kids/Safe Sleep  
Healthy Food, Small Market  
Healthy Start  
Infant Mortality  
Maternal Child Health  
Ohio Equity Initiative  
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

## LOCAL OFFICE ON MINORITY HEALTH

## INNOVATION, QUALITY & INFORMATICS

Academic Public Health  
Public Health Accreditation (PHAB)  
Community Disaster & Response Planning  
Epidemiology/Infectious Disease Reporting  
Medical Reserve Corps  
Quality Improvement

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

### General Inspections

Body Art  
Public Swimming Pool/Spas/Bathing Beach  
Campground  
Rodent Control Program  
School Buildings (K-12)  
Maternity Wards  
Institutions (Jail/Prison)  
Animal Bite Program-Rabies  
Smoke-Free Workplace Complaints  
General Nuisance

### Food Safety Program

Food Service Operation Inspections  
Retail Food Establishment Inspections  
Mobile Food Service Inspections  
Temporary Food Service Inspections  
Vending/Micro Markets Inspections

## Lead Prevention

Lead Education  
Ohio Department of Health Lead Program  
City of Toledo Lead Ordinance

## Solid & Infectious Waste Inspections

Infectious Waste Treatment Facility  
Construction Demolition & Debris Landfill  
Municipal Solid Waste Landfills  
Composting Facilities  
Scrap Tire Complaints  
Notice of Intent to Fill  
Environmental Assessments  
Scrap Yard Inspections

## Sewage Program

Household Sewage Treatment Systems (HSTS)  
Inspections & Plan Approval  
Operation & Maintenance for HSTS  
Semi-Public Sewage System Inspections  
Aerator Unit Sewage System Inspections  
Sewage Hauler Inspections  
Mortgage Inspections

## Private Water Program

Household Well Inspections & Samples  
Potable Water Hauler Truck Inspections  
Mortgage Inspections  
Property Improvement Evaluation Inspections

## Storm Water Program

Outfall Inspections  
Illicit Discharge Inspections  
Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring

## NURSING & CLINICAL SERVICES

60 + (Senior Wellness)  
Adult & Travel Immunizations  
Complex Medical Help  
Disease Intervention  
Get Vaccinated Ohio (GVO)  
Harm Reduction  
HIV/STI Testing & Treatment  
Traffic Safety & Injury Prevention  
Naloxone Training & Distribution  
Northwest Ohio Syringe Services (NOSS)  
Overdose Prevention & Education  
Reproductive Health & Wellness Clinic (RHWC)  
Shots 4 Tots n Teens  
Tuberculosis Testing & Treatment

## ADMINISTRATIVE & OTHER

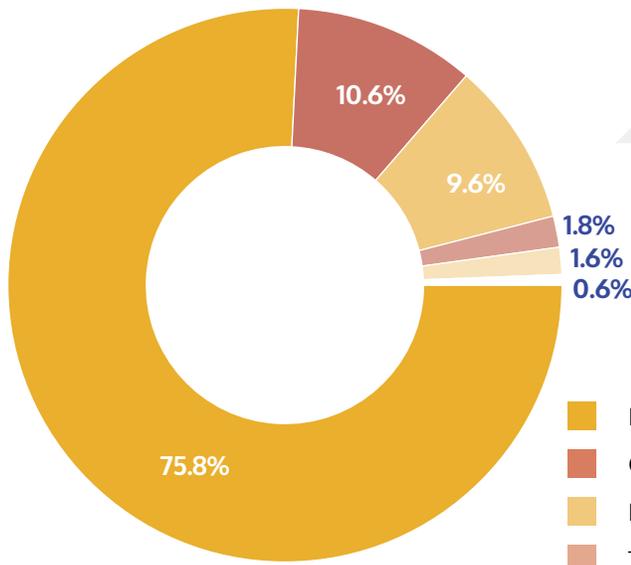
Finance  
Grants  
Health Communications  
Human Resources  
Vital Statistics (Birth & Death Certificates)

## IT & OPERATIONS

Information Services  
Network Services  
Security

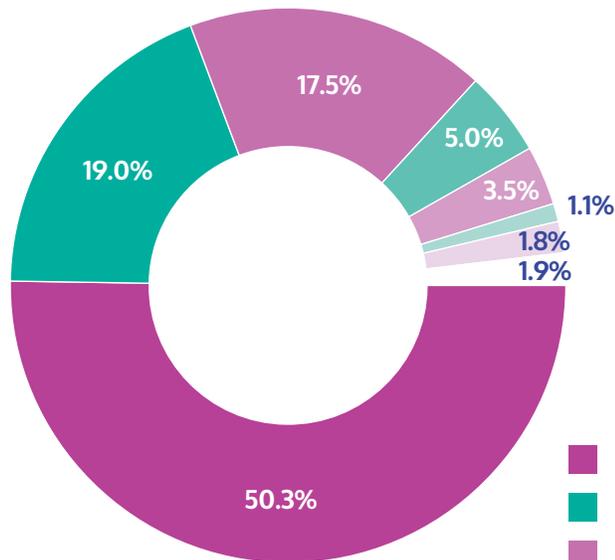
**NOTE:** County & programmatic data submitted in this report are considered preliminary and subject to change as additional data is processed, verified, or jurisdictionally reassigned as necessary. This is especially applicable for data from years 2022-2024.

## REVENUES



Intergovernmental*	\$12,872,996.15
Charges for Services	\$1,794,039.60
Licenses & Permits	\$1,636,319.16
Transfers In	\$309,047.04
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$268,108.61
Other	\$82,082.33
<b>Total of 2024 Revenues</b>	<b>\$16,962,592.89</b>

## EXPENDITURES



Personal Services	\$8,263,242.52
Fringe Benefits	\$3,130,224.32
Charges for Services	\$2,880,659.29
Materials & Supplies	\$818,722.43
Operating Expenses	\$568,684.74
Miscellaneous	\$172,947.14
Capital Outlay	\$300,718.16
Transfers Out	\$309,047.04
<b>Total of 2024 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$16,444,245.64</b>

\* Federal, state, local grants and jurisdictional allocations

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

## 2024 Accomplishments

- Provided training and development opportunities for employees at all levels of the organization.
- Incorporated a new recruitment system to streamline recruiting at TLCHD.
- Implemented sourcing strategies to reach diverse candidates.
- Developed non-bargaining unit classification plan.
- Identified and developed policies and procedures necessary to ensure compliance, equity, and fairness within the organization.
- Implemented the updated Time & Attendance procedure and related processes and communicated changes with staff and leadership.

**Employee/Staffing**

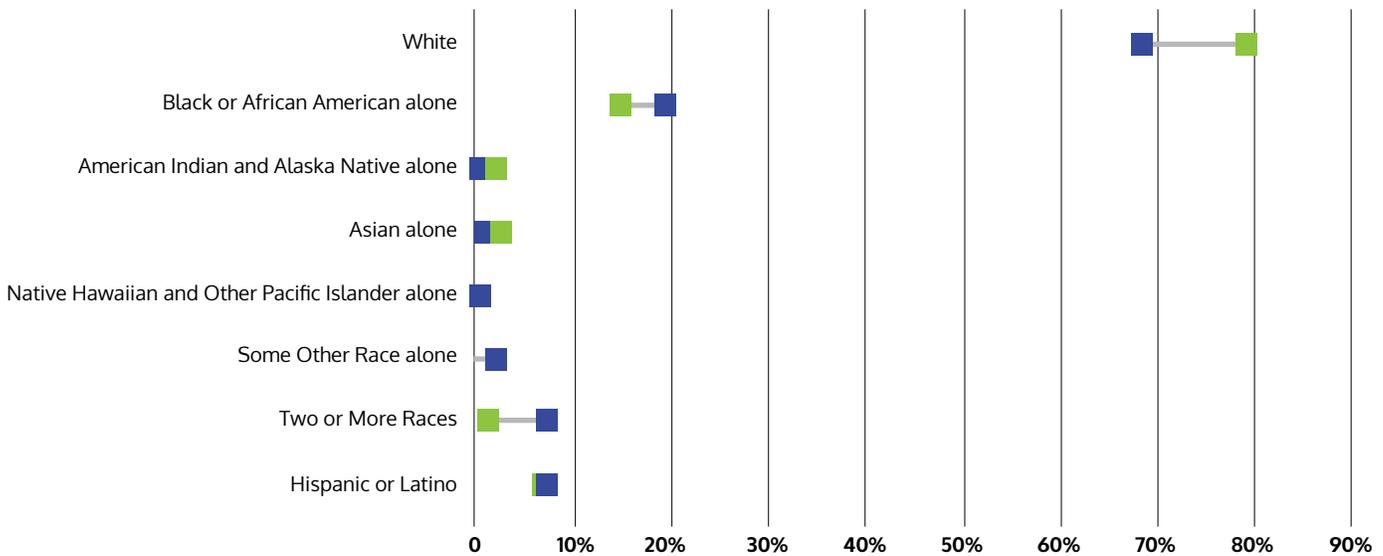
**19** positions were posted

**16** positions filled with new hires

**3** internal transfers, including promotions

Reduced the employee turnover rate by **7%** from 2023

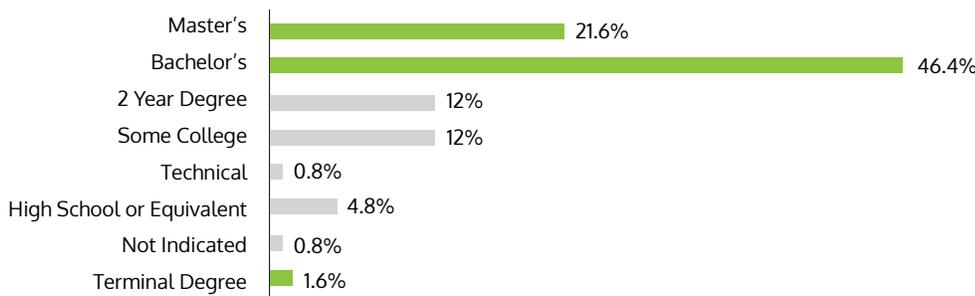
**TLCHD employees closely represent the community served, with fewer than 5% difference in most demographics.**



\*U.S. Census Bureau. "RACE." Decennial Census, DEC Redistricting Data (PL 94-171), Table P1, 2020

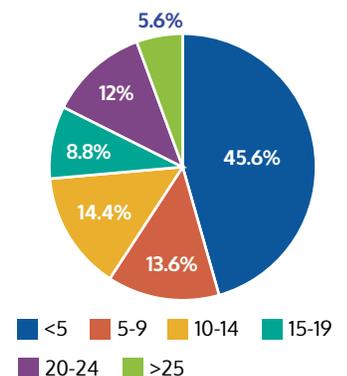
\*U.S. Census Bureau. "HISPANIC OR LATINO, AND NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO BY RACE." Decennial Census, DEC Demographic and Housing Characteristics, Table P9, 2020.

**Nearly 70% of TLCHD employees have a Bachelor's degree or higher.**



\*U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce. "Educational Attainment." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S1501, 2023

**Years of Service**



Toledo Heart Walk



Toledo Pride



African American Festival Parade



## Did you know?

TLCHD leads **14 coalitions** and actively participates in **25** others throughout Lucas County.

Beverly Elementary's National Walk & Bike to School Day Event



Healthy Start hosted its community Holiday Baby Shower



## Tent City 2024

TLCHD staff provided multiple services including flu and COVID vaccines, COVID rapid test kits, condoms, naloxone training, sexual health information, birth certificates, and more.



TLCHD's **Childhood and Youth Wellness Symposium** focused on Childhood Obesity.



## Chalk the Walk

The August 16th event engaged more than 300 attendees who were able to create public art memorials honoring loved ones whose life was lost to drug overdose. Over 30 community agencies offered family-friendly activities, education and distribution of naloxone and fentanyl test strips.



The health department held a **Staff Appreciation Breakfast** to thank its 125 employees for their dedication to public health.



## Essential Public Health Service #4

TLCHD generalist inspector, Chris Coakley, responded to a complaint about a potential rodent colony at an elderly man's home. Despite initial difficulties contacting the homeowner, our inspector learned from neighbors that the man rarely left his house. A bench warrant was issued because of the man's lack of transportation to appear in court. Persistent complaints led to legal action, prompting a court-mandated inspection that uncovered severe hoarding and sanitation issues. Before our inspection, the sanitarian engaged Adult Protective Services and the Area Office on Aging to develop a plan.

During the inspection, trash piled up to the ceiling in every room, feces and animal waste were observed throughout the home, along with inoperable bathrooms, and no edible food. The elderly man's sister took immediate action, hiring contractors to renovate the severely damaged home, coordinating medical treatment, and hiring an attorney to represent him. During the six-month renovation, he stayed in a hotel arranged by his sister.

Almost a year later, the elderly man returned to his refurbished home. TLCHD's inspector checked in to ensure his well-being and was met with gratitude for helping reconnect him with family and bringing positive changes to his life. The man, now referred to as "her brother 2.0" by his sister, has regained self-worth and normalcy, is re-engaging with his community, and is enjoying life once more. The Health Department's sanitarian felt honored to have contributed to this transformation.





Tony Dible, Overdose Prevention Coordinator, participated in The Human Relations Commission’s 3rd annual **Human Library Event** at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library. He shared his path of recovery from substance use, and how he uses his experience to help people in Toledo and Lucas County find their own recovery path.



Heather Burnette, Health Communication Specialist, graduated from the **Lucas County Leaders Emerging and Developing (LEAD)** program.



Natalie Haase, Traffic Safety Health Educator, was selected as a recipient of the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s **Partners for Safety award** for her ongoing partnership with the Patrol to promote traffic safety and work toward making Ohio roadways as safe as possible.



Donna Fox, HIV & STI Manager, was interviewed by NBC News for a national story regarding the health department’s messaging efforts to spread awareness about Syphilis. Donna’s efforts were also highlighted in a New York Times article.



Barb Jordan, Terri DeTano, Maria Bibish attended the Annual **CSTE Conference** (Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologist) in Pittsburgh, PA. The conference was attended by more than 2,800 public health epidemiologists from across the country. Topics such as healthcare associated infections and antimicrobial resistance (HAI/AR), vectorborne disease, surveillance programs, and zoonotic diseases were discussed.

The Board of Lucas County Commissioners presented multiple proclamations to acknowledge Public Health milestones

### 50 Years of WIC



### Minority Health Month



Brandon P., Shannon J., Tayler L., Cheyenne N., Melissa L., Rebecca B., Sarah W., Joe W., Nick H., Jennifer G., Tony D., and Mahjida attended the **NACCHO 360 Annual Conference** in Detroit, MI. More than 3,500 public health leaders and professionals were in attendance to explore innovation and sharing sessions to bridge the gap between traditional public health practices and health informatics, information technology, and surveillance.



Dina Ramirez, participated on a panel at the 9th Annual **Latino Leadership Initiative Forum**. The panel focused on sharing expertise on how to better serve the Latino community and the challenges in the behavioral healthcare system.



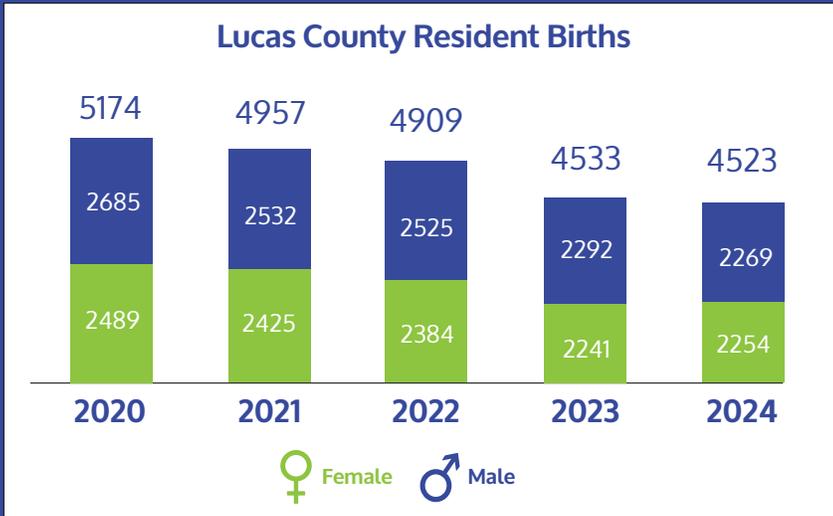
Emily Collins attended the **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) National Summit** in Chicago. The opportunity allowed leaders and MRC state coordinators to connect with colleagues, share peer to peer best practices from the COVID-19 pandemic, and share resources that enhance unit capabilities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from future pandemics, disasters, and emergencies.



Shannon Jones, Deputy Health Commissioner, presented to the Board of Lucas County Commissioners about the meaning and importance of health literacy for **Health Literacy Month** in October.

# VITAL STATISTICS

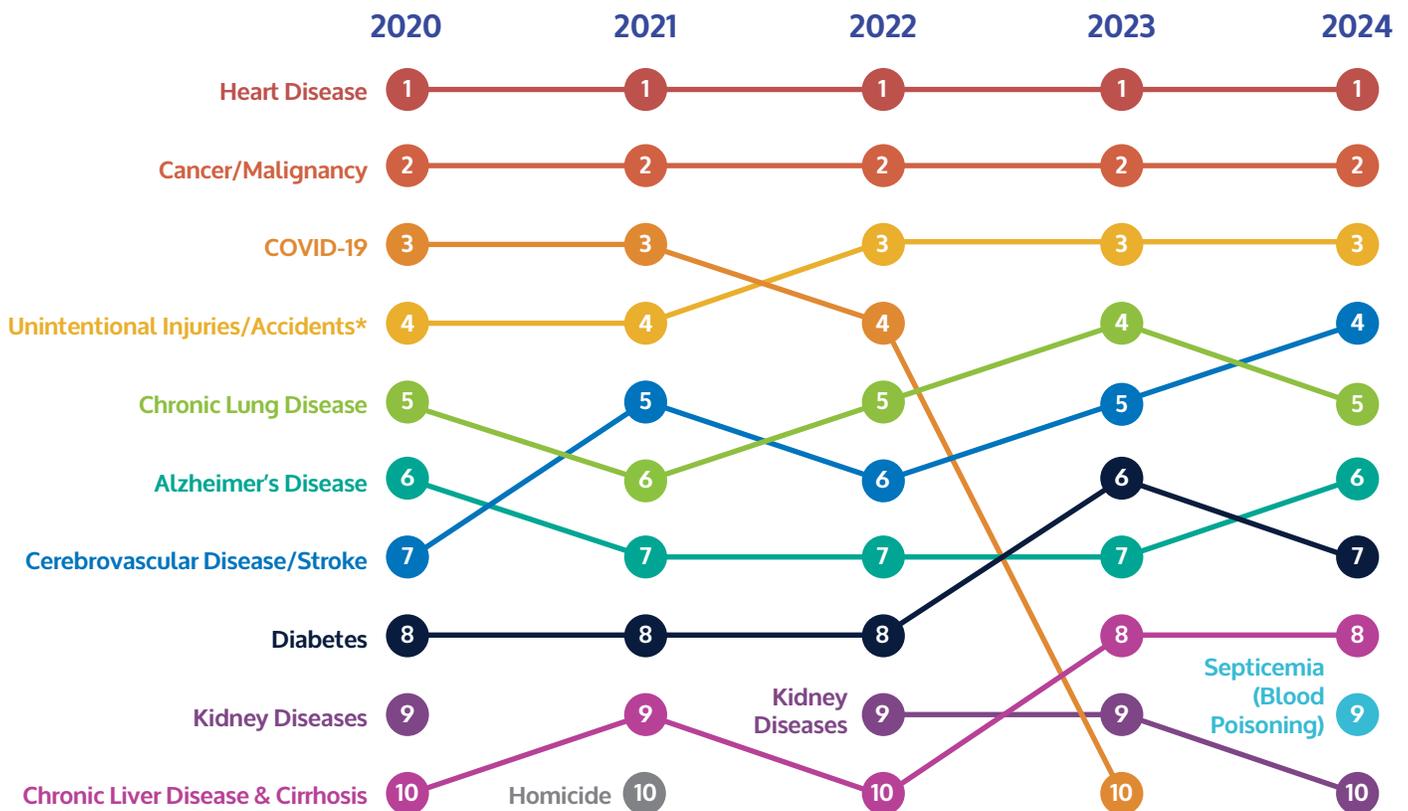
Birth and death data is reported for Lucas County residents and does not include residents of other jurisdictions who were born or died within Lucas County. The 5-year top ten causes of death chart illustrates the continued impact of heart disease and cancer on our community. Other causes, such as chronic lung disease, cerebrovascular diseases/stroke, diabetes, and chronic liver diseases/cirrhosis are all on the relative-rise year to year.



2024 Lucas County Resident Deaths:  
**4,181**

In 2024, **Chronic Diseases** accounted for **50.44%** of all Lucas County Resident Deaths

## Leading Causes of Death for Lucas County Residents



\* Unintentional Injuries/Accidents includes opioid overdose deaths, motor vehicle deaths, and other accidental deaths.

# INFECTIOUS DISEASE: PREVENTION, SURVEILLANCE, & INVESTIGATION

The State of Ohio recognizes **more than 88 diseases** and infectious agents that pose a severe threat to the public's health.

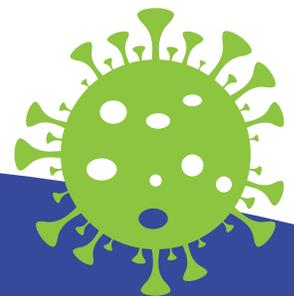
Lucas County epidemiologists responded to 1 or more cases of **35** Class A, B, C reportable diseases in 2024. In the last 5 years, TLCHD has responded to 1 or more cases of **47** reportable diseases.

## Top 10 Reportable Diseases

The top reportable diseases by total number of cases (incidence) are reported below. The total incidence of all other reportable diseases is combined (HIV excluded).

Top 10 Class A, B, or C Reportable Diseases	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2024 Trend vs 5 Year Average
COVID-19	26,375	50,047	47,100	10,397	7,108	↓ 78.8%
Chlamydia Infection	3,105	3,005	3,006	2,882	2,504	↓ 19.0%
Gonococcal Infection	1,886	1,613	1,480	1,187	769	↓ 51.8%
Influenza-associated hospitalization	362	Suppressed	460	128	552	↑ 20.2%
Hepatitis C*	456	503	442	359	283	↓ 40.1%
Syphilis*	74	153	135	152	137	↑ 21.0%
Campylobacteriosis	46	48	64	90	90	↑ 35.1%
Salmonellosis	25	45	51	54	58	↑ 23.9%
Hepatitis B*	65	75	86	74	57	↓ 29.8%
CPO*	15	17	18	40	51	↑ 150.0%
<b>All Other Reportable Class A, B, and C Diseases</b>	353	306	252	266	317	-

\*Data is reported current as of 2/20/25. Case counts fewer than are 10 suppressed. 5-Year trend includes data from 2019-2023 for all diseases except Influenza where the 2019-2020 & 2020-2021 seasons are excluded due to data instability and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. \*Hepatitis B & C case counts include all perinatal, acute, and chronic cases. \*CPO includes all confirmed and probable Carbapenemase-Producing Organism cases and confirmed Carbapenemase-Producing Organism Colonization Screenings. \*Syphilis includes all congenital, early, primary, secondary, and unknown duration or late cases.



TLCHD Epidemiologist Yashika Bhoge presented to BGSU students about how her work in infant mortality surveillance is used to identify trends, disparities, and risk factors affecting infant health outcomes in Lucas County.



# MINORITY HEALTH

The Toledo Office of Minority Health (TOMH) addresses health disparities while promoting equity for under-served and marginalized populations in Lucas County. This includes working to eliminate barriers to access healthcare, improve health outcomes, and address issues disproportionately affecting minority communities. In 2024, the TOMH engaged approximately 3,000 Lucas County residents through events and social media. Key topics included diabetes management, high blood pressure, infant mortality, and access to TLCHD programs.

## **Black Motherhood: Tackling Postpartum Health**

Black Maternal Health Week (April 11-17) was kicked off by Jasmine Pope, owner and lead therapist of Blessings in Disguize. She delivered a powerful keynote presentation surrounding postpartum depression in black mothers, reducing mental health stigma, and resources available. Attendees received information on health insurance opportunities in addition to postpartum support. TOMH partnered with Cribs for Kids and provided gift cards, diapers, wipes, and other baby essentials.



## Essential Public Health Service #9

### **State Opioid Response Grant**

In collaboration with Harm Reduction, TOMH addressed stigmatization surrounding substance abuse in the African American community through the 2024 State Opioid Response grant. The initiative brought culturally relevant messages to the local community through digital ads, radio spots, streaming, and billboards.

Through an evidence-based practice, TOMH partnered with New Concepts, a local behavioral health agency, to engage African American men and women of varying ages by way of a focus group. Participants provided feedback to inform data driven decision-making, contributing to effective public health messaging.

# FETAL AND INFANT MORTALITY

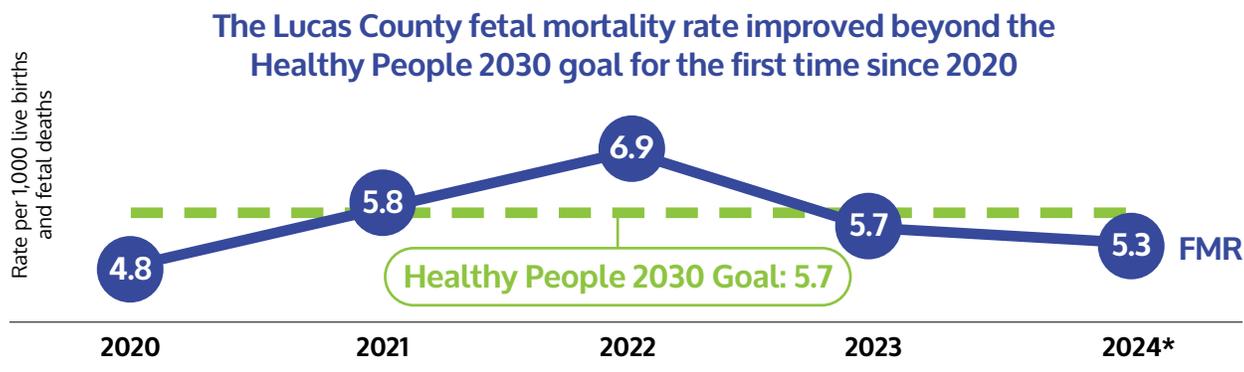
Fetal and infant mortality rates are key public health metrics for tracking and improving maternal and child health. They help identify areas for intervention and monitor progress in reducing preventable deaths during pregnancy and early childhood.

**Fetal Mortality Rate (FMR)** is the number of fetal deaths per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths.

**Lucas County**  
In 2024, high blood pressure contributed to:

1 in 4 infant deaths &  
1 in 3 Stillbirths

The number of fetal deaths **decreased 14.29%** to 24 in 2024 from 28 in 2023.



## Infant Mortality

Infant mortality is the death of an infant before their first birthday. The infant mortality rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

While the infant mortality rate is still significantly higher than the healthiest counties in Ohio, the rate reached its lowest level of the last 5 years in 2024.

The infant mortality rate **decreased 27.7%** from 11.9 to 8.6 per 1,000 live births in 2024.

## Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Committee Essential Public Health Service #1

An evidence-based process that examines factors contributing to fetal and infant deaths through case reviews and family interviews. Using a two-tiered approach, a multidisciplinary case review team and a community action team collaborate to identify social, economic, cultural, and safety-related health factors, leading to actionable recommendations. From October 2022 to September 2024, FIMR reviewed 18 fetal cases, identifying key themes, recommendations, and initiatives.

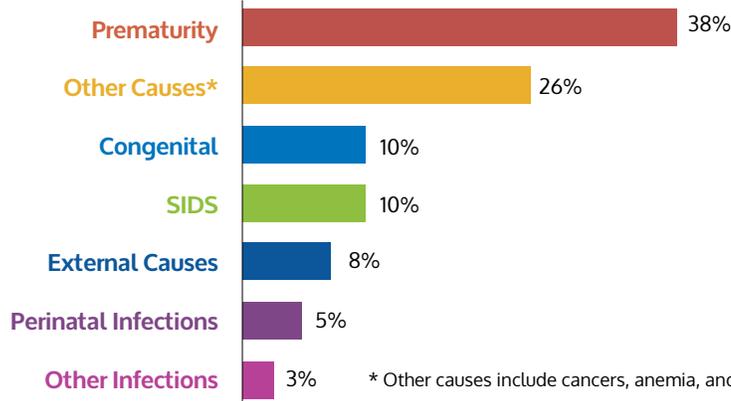
## Child Fatality Review (CFR) Board

The Lucas County Child Fatality Review (CFR) Board is a multidisciplinary team dedicated to reducing child fatalities and improving children's safety and well-being. Comprised of professionals from healthcare, law enforcement, social services, and public health, the Board reviews child deaths to identify risk factors, system interactions, and challenges faced by the child. By analyzing these cases, the CFR Board recommends policy and program improvements while fostering collaboration among agencies serving families and children.

Data Source: Resident Birth and Mortality Files from the Ohio Department of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics.

## FETAL & INFANT MORTALITY (CONTINUED)

### 2024 Leading Causes of Infant Death in Lucas County



\* Other causes include cancers, anemia, and other conditions not otherwise specified.

Data Source: Resident Birth and Mortality Files from the Ohio Department of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics. 2023 and 2024 data are preliminary and may subject to change

In 2024, prematurity remained the leading cause of preventable infant deaths in Lucas County. Top risk factors for prematurity include high blood pressure, over- or under-weight, smoking, no or late prenatal care, and maternal age during pregnancy for women under 20 or over 35 years of age.

## CRIBS FOR KIDS

Lucas County's safe sleep programs work with local initiatives like Greater Toledo Safe Kids Worldwide, WIC, and Ohio Equity Initiative through the Getting to One Coalition to reduce infant sleep-related deaths. Safe sleep training and Cribs for Kids resources are provided to families in high-risk areas in partnership with Lucas County Job and Family Services. Cribs for Kids offers education and access at health centers, libraries, and community events. Services also extend to Wood and Hancock Counties, with home visits incorporating safe sleep education.

### Cribettes Distributed

Lucas County	338
Wood County	53
Hancock County	14
Lucas County Jobs and Family Services	176



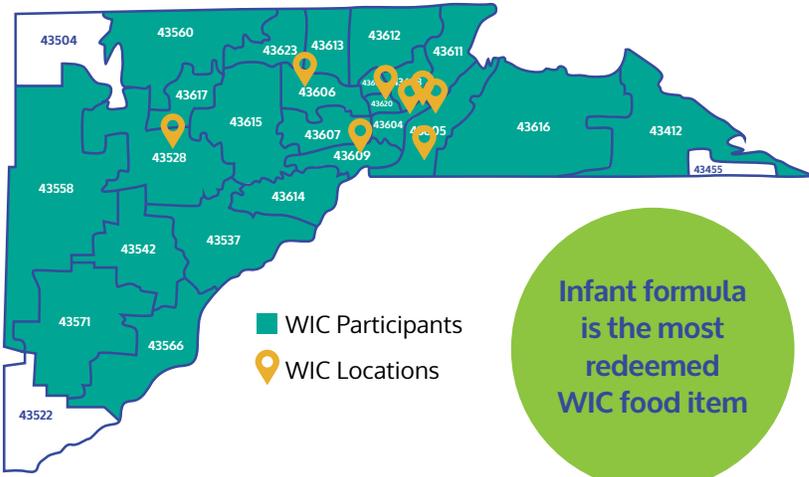
# WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN

Women, Infants, and Children provides nutrition education, referrals, and breastfeeding support to eligible children from birth to age five, women who are pregnant, postpartum within six months, and breastfeeding up to one year.



Mothers enrolled in WIC are **2.25x less likely** to experience fetal loss compared to mothers who are not enrolled in WIC.

WIC served **14,753** participants in 2024.



## Farmers Markets

TLCHD hosted **six Farmers Markets** at the health department from July through September 2024. Local farmers accepted SNAP benefits, P-EBT, WIC Farmers Market Coupons, Senior Farmers Market payments, and Nutrition Program coupons.

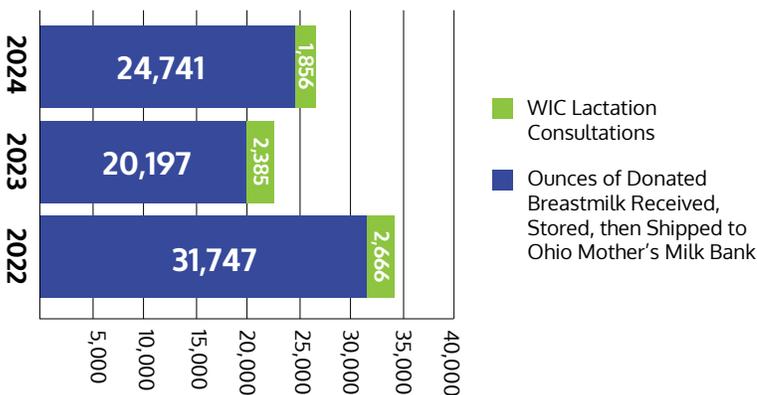
## TLCHD Farmers Market Redemptions

WIC Farmers Market Coupons	\$1,090
Senior Nutrition Coupons	\$198
EBT	\$195
Produce Perks	\$216
Produce Prescriptions	\$60
Buckeye Fresh	\$18
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,777</b>

Lucas County WIC participants redeemed **42%** of their Farmers Market coupons to purchase **\$49,265** in local produce in 2024!



## Breastfeeding Support & Milk Donations



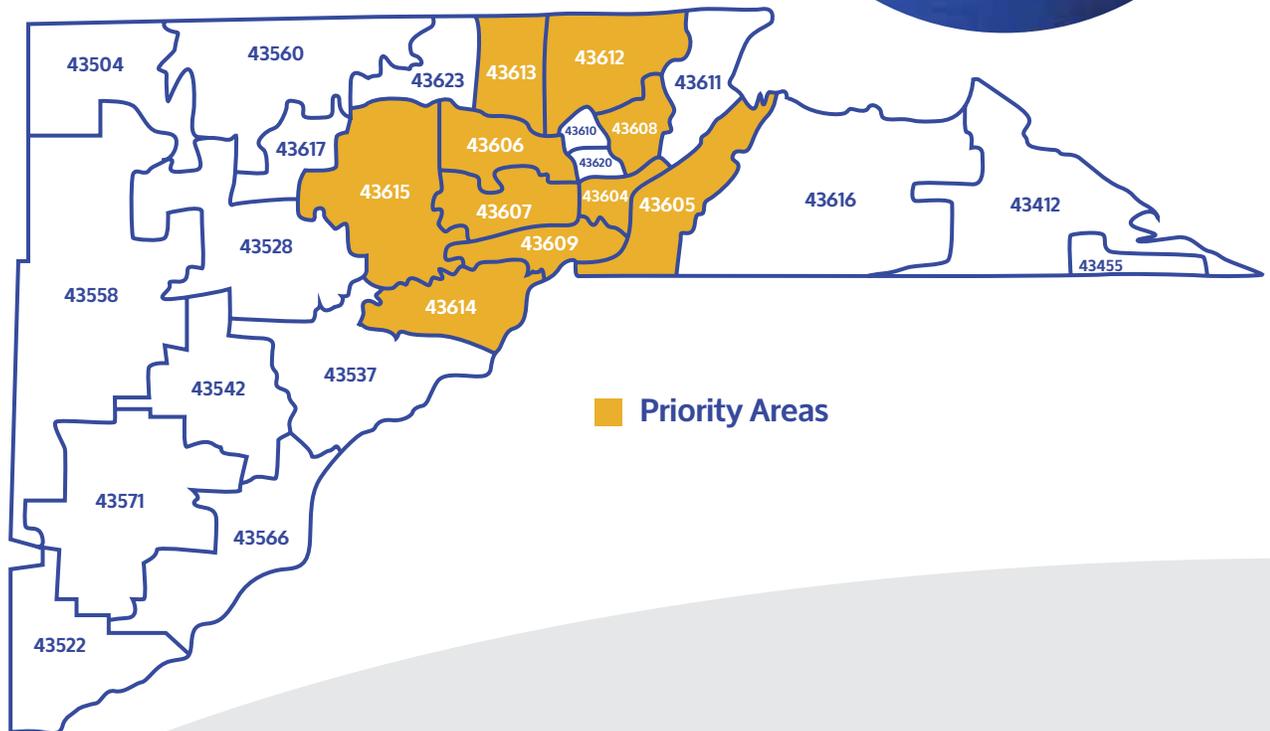
# OHIO EQUITY INITIATIVE

The OEI Team promotes equity in Maternal Child Health and Wellness while encouraging policy adoption to serve socially vulnerable groups, including low-income, African American, pregnant or women of childbearing age.

In 2024, 465 clients were served, a **157% increase** from 2023.



**81.6%** of all OEI clients resided in one of Toledo's priority zip codes. These priority areas make up approximately **82%** of all infant mortality in Lucas County.



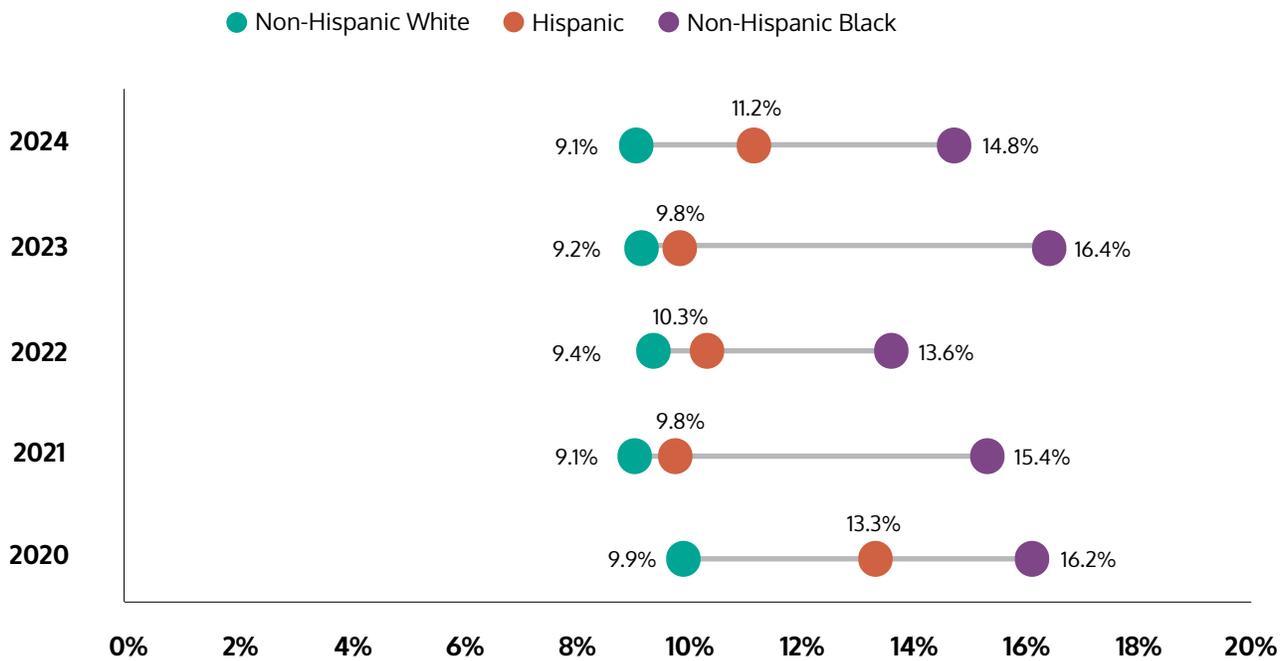
**Community Health Workers: A Trusted Source of Information and Guidance**

Community Health Workers (CHWs) work tirelessly to connect clients to the much-needed health and social services within the Toledo community. They ensure clients have equitable access to primary care, housing assistance, behavioral health, and overcoming transportation barriers.

In 2024, a Healthy Start CHW assisted an unhoused mother of six facing repeated displacements due to failed apartment inspections. The mother had to separate her children at one point while staying short-term with family and friends due to lack of space. When a housing opportunity arose, they couldn't afford the deposit. The CHW found a resource that aided with deposits and essential household items, as long as the family could demonstrate the ability to continue paying rent. Together, they made sure the participant met the eligibility and completed the application for the program.

Additional challenges remained, including an unresponsive landlord and the children's lack of documents to enroll in school. The CHW assisted with obtaining birth certificates, ensured school enrollment, and found resources to furnish their home and provide clothing. Today, the family is housed, the children are in school, and the mother has expressed deep gratitude for Healthy Start's support.

**Non-Hispanic Black residents experience the highest pre-term birth rates.**

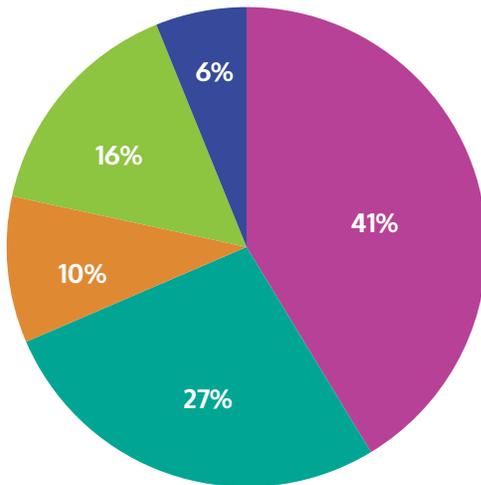


# HEALTHY START

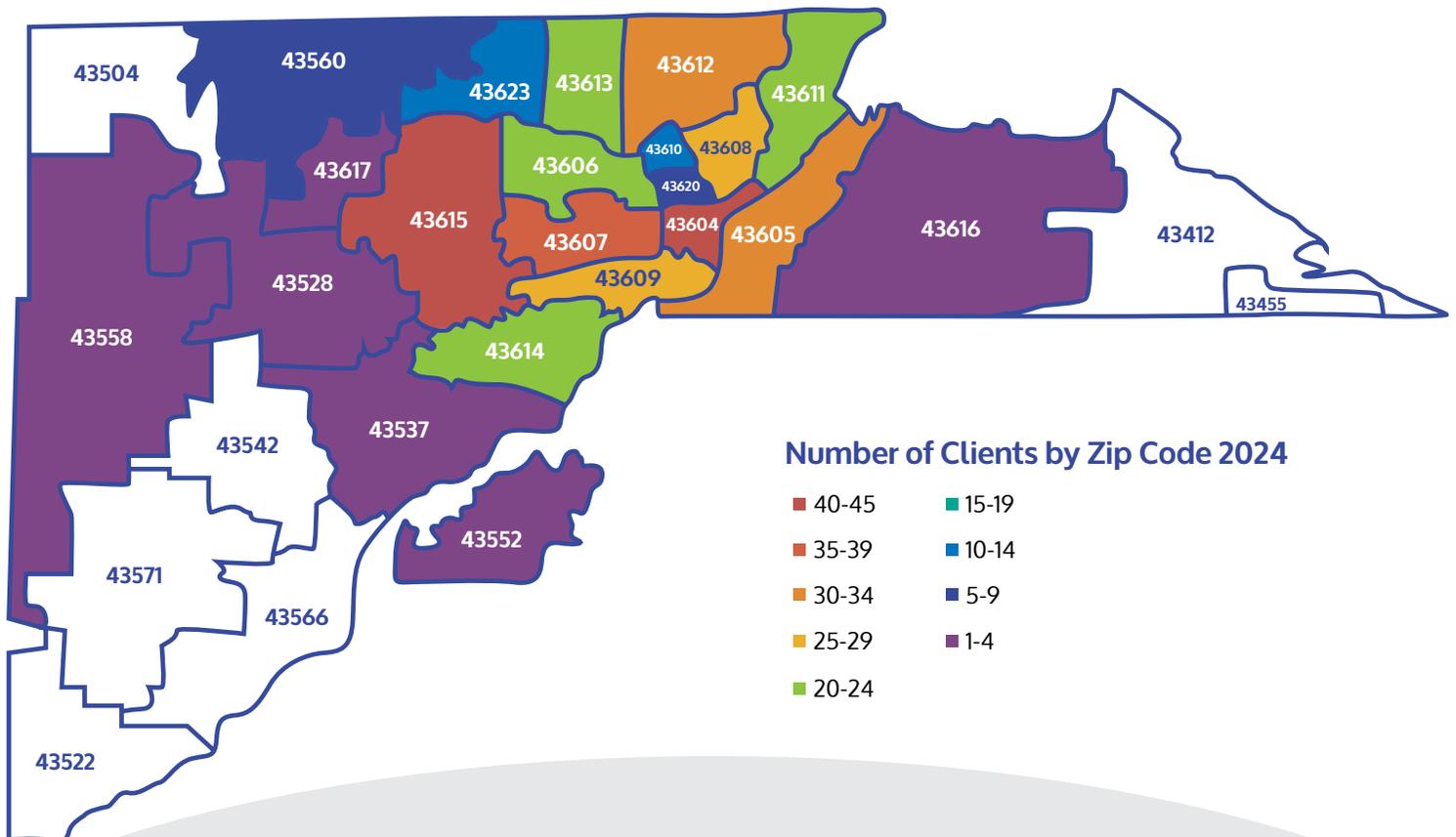
## Supporting Families, Strengthening Communities

Healthy Start, a free home visiting program, focuses on improving maternal and infant health outcomes in priority areas in both Toledo and Lucas County. Through education and care coordination, we support women, men, and families with young children, addressing risks like preterm birth, low birth weight, and infant mortality. Serving pregnant individuals, parents, and infants up to 18 months, we prioritize socially vulnerable populations and offer co-parenting education. With culturally responsive care and strong community partnerships, Healthy Start empowers families for healthier, more stable lives.

Healthy Start Clients 2024



Pregnant	155
Infants 0-11 Months	102
Children 12-17	37
Non-Pregnant Women	58
Men	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>

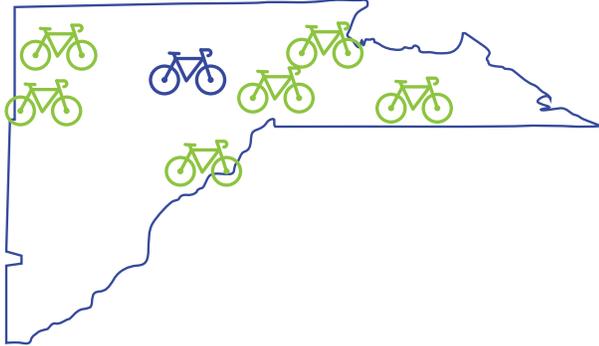


# ACTIVE LIVING

## Essential Public Health Service #5

TLCHD works closely with other community organizations to create safe walking, biking, and public transit options, while advocating for health-focused urban planning that encourages physical activity. These strategies build a more resilient community, enhance quality of life, and contribute to equitable neighborhoods.

### Lucas County Active Transportation Plan



### 7 jurisdictions have adopted the plan

- Lucas County
- City of Toledo
- City of Maumee
- City of Oregon
- City of Sylvania
- Sylvania Township
- Village of Holland—**new in 2024**



**4.3** miles of buffered bike lanes funded

**1.5** miles of bicycle boulevards

**3.6** miles of shared use paths funded

**Completed** Anthony Wayne multi-use trail in City of Maumee and City of Toledo

### Safe Routes to School



**17** bike fix-it and safety events



**64** walk and bike to school day events



**1,600** bike helmets distributed



**Weekly** walk and roll Wednesdays



### Uptown Green Park Exercise Equipment

Regular physical activity plays a vital role in reducing chronic disease risk for both adults and children. Responding to community feedback, TLCHD collaborated with the City of Toledo Parks and Recreation and the ProMedica Ebeid Center to enhance Uptown Green Park. In 2024, the project introduced a water station, a two-person air walker, and additional exercise equipment. These improvements encourage physical activity and complement the park's existing free outdoor programs. Community feedback has been positive, highlighting the new features as valuable additions that enhance visitors' overall park experience.

# CHILDHOOD & YOUTH WELLNESS

## Asthma

Driven by a commitment to improving respiratory health in the community, TLCHD led impactful initiatives to address asthma management and education:

- **Asthma Advisory Board:** Founded and led a collaborative platform to drive best practices and advocacy.
- **Community Engagement:** Facilitated public and provider forums under the ODH Minority Asthma Grant to address the unique challenges faced by seniors and parents of preschoolers.
- **Digital Health Innovation:** Launched an interactive Asthma Landing Page, providing real-time air quality data and educational resources.



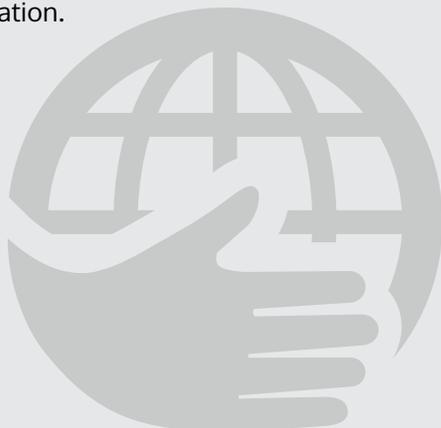
### Essential Public Health Service #1

#### School Asthma Program Expansion:

- The Stock Albuterol Program in Washington Local and Toledo Public Schools continued. TLCHD also expanded the program to include Springfield Local Schools based upon the Ohio Healthy Student Profiles, as the data/information tracks health conditions, allowing for equitable action. Springfield Schools had the second highest rate of asthmatic students in Lucas County.

## Getting to 1 Subcommittee: Environmental Pollutants

The Committee focused on drafting and enacting policy changes informed by insights from subject matter experts on pollutants. As a key outcome, the committee developed and finalized a Toxin-Free Donation List for agencies, accompanied by a commitment letter to encourage adoption and implementation.



## School Safety Task Force

Stemming from a roundtable topic at the October 2023 Children's Health and Wellness Symposium, the School Safety Task Force (SSTF) engages multiple groups to find strategies to mitigate student threats of harm.



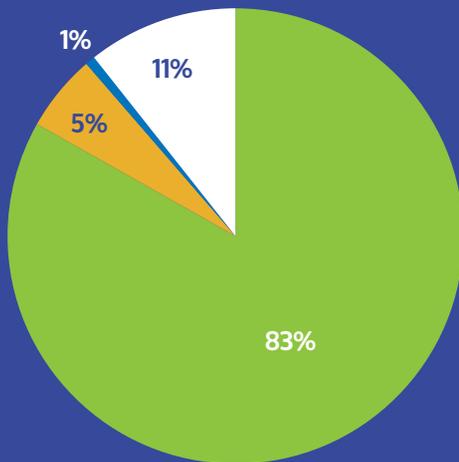
In 2024, the SSTF completed the following training:

- National Threat Evaluation and Reporting (TERO)
- CaseWorX case management system for Behavioral Threat Assessment Teams

# NURSING & HEALTH SERVICES

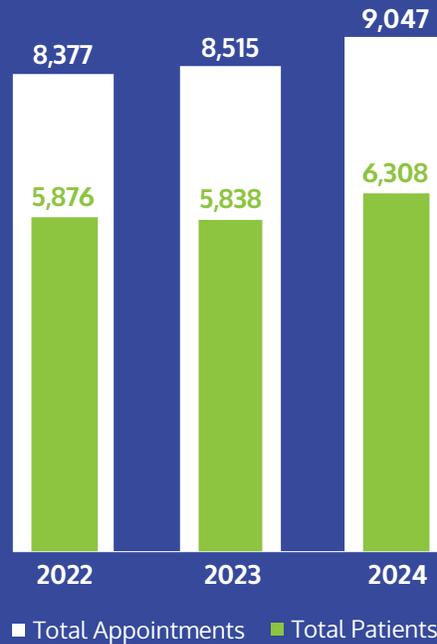
Clinic numbers include clients for Adult & Travel Immunizations, Shots 4 Tots n Teens, RHC, Tuberculosis, 60+.

Patients Served



Lucas County	5,247
Other Ohio Counties	345
Michigan	44
Unknown	672
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,308</b>

TLCHD Patients Across all Clinic Appointments



**1.4**  
average appointments per patient

## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH & WELLNESS

Services in this clinic include STI testing for men and women, well-woman exams/pap smears, birth control, breast exams, HIV prevention (PreP) and testing, pregnancy testing, and male reproductive services. The RHC performed more than 2,000 STI tests and over 1,700 HIV tests in 2024.

Total Client Visits



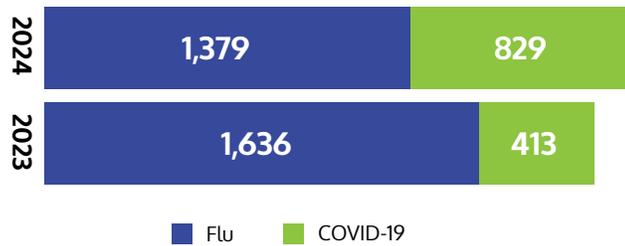
NURSING & HEALTH SERVICES

# IMMUNIZATIONS

## Adult & Travel Immunizations

TLCHD’s public health nurse educates and advises world travelers on important health and safety information, in addition to providing required travel vaccines including Yellow Fever, Typhoid, Japanese Encephalitis, Rabies and Hepatitis B.

### Seasonal Vaccines



### Adult Vaccines

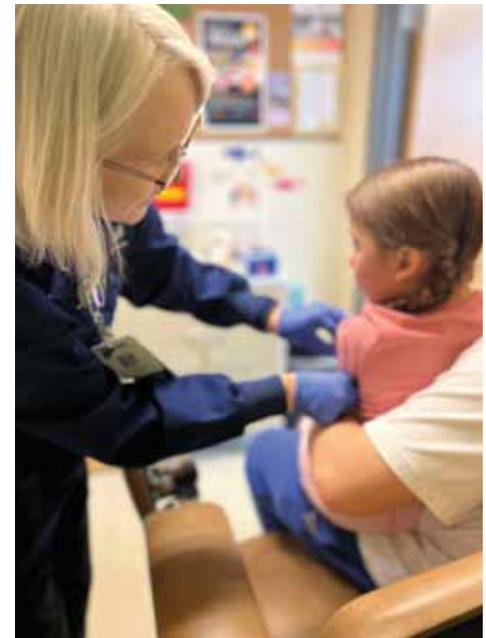
Vaccine	2024	2023
Hepatitis A	83	111
Twinrix	47	59
HIB	8	20
HPV	169	57
Flu (High Dose)	431	440
Rabies	131	225
Fluarix	948	1,196
Typhoid	253	266
MMR	240	208
Polio	177	4
Tdap	355	261
Varicella	379	257
Yellow Fever	175	222
Meningitis	41	17
Hep B	461	336
Shingles	20	28
Pneumonia	39	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,957</b>	<b>3,742</b>



1,278 Patients  
3,149 Vaccines

Vaccines were distributed at four offsite community locations, in addition to serving patients at the health department’s downtown location, to increase access to our services:

- Holland Library
- West Toledo YMCA
- Heatherdowns Library
- East Toledo Family Center



### Get Vaccinated Ohio

The Health Department participates in the grant funded program, Get Vaccinated Ohio. A public health nurse serves as a resource, educating and guiding schools and physicians’ offices on vaccine uptake strategies.



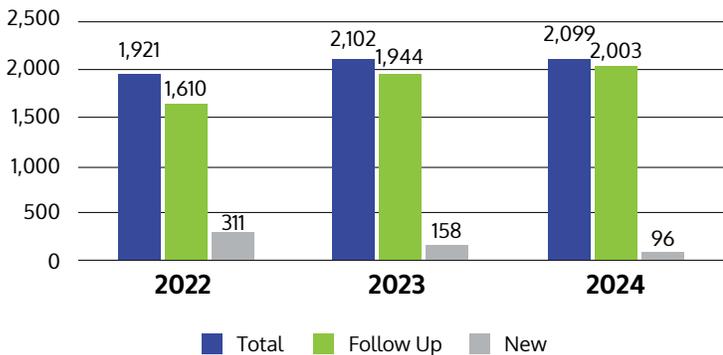
# COMPLEX MEDICAL HELP PROGRAM

## 60+ PROGRAM

The 60+ Program conducts visits to 18 locations each month, such as senior centers, senior housing complexes, and a food pantry. During these visits, blood pressure, and other health screenings, are performed and reviewed with each client.



Client Assessments



## TUBERCULOSIS

In addition to pre-employment, school, and immigration skin testing, TLCHD is responsible for continually monitoring for active TB disease in our county. This can include daily home regimens, contact tracing, and care coordination.

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Skin Tests Evaluated	940	789	833	588

Through the Ohio Department of Health, CMH links patients with special health care needs to a network of quality providers through the Diagnostic Program, and helps families pay for services through the Treatment Program. Services can include:

- Surgeries
- Medication
- Medical Supplies
- Medical Therapy

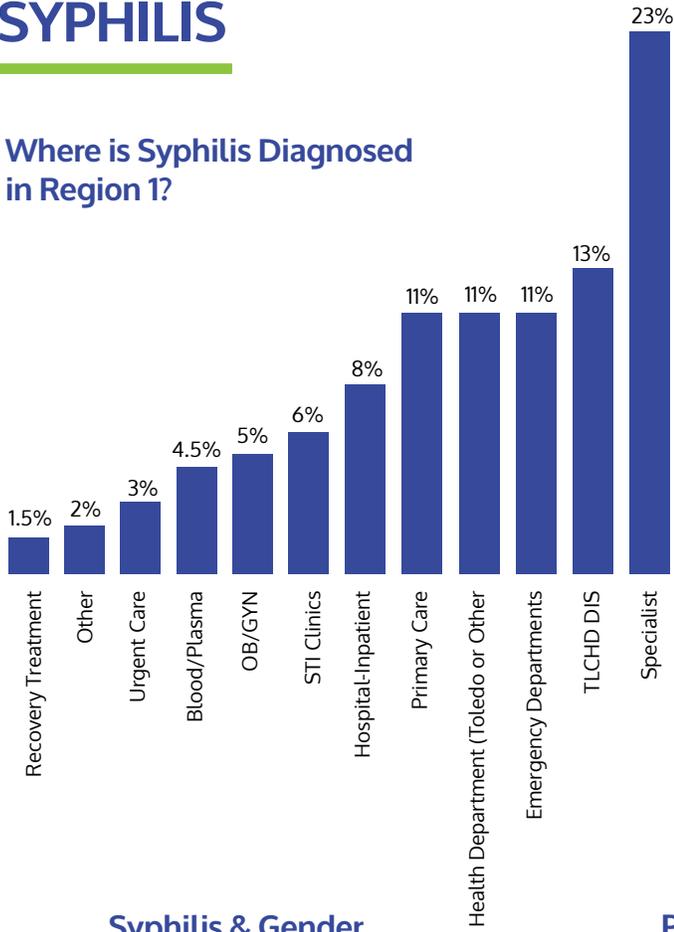
There is no minimal financial qualification. Participants in the Diagnostic Program can be enrolled until age 21, and age 25 in the the Treatment Program.

Families Served



# SYPHILIS

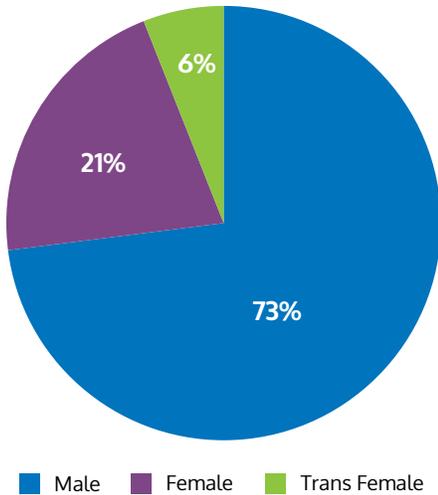
Where is Syphilis Diagnosed in Region 1?



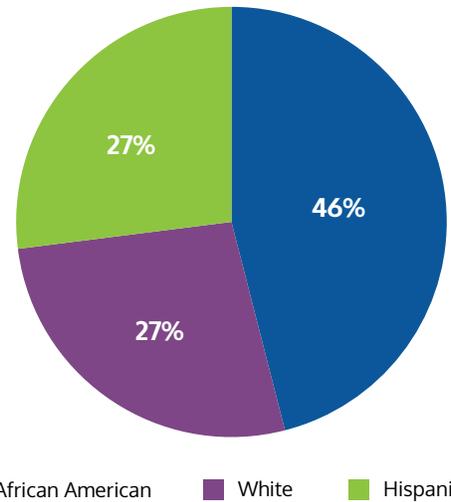
**47%** of ALL new Syphilis diagnosis were among African Americans.

**78%** of new Syphilis cases were Lucas County residents

Syphilis & Gender



Pregnant Women with Syphilis



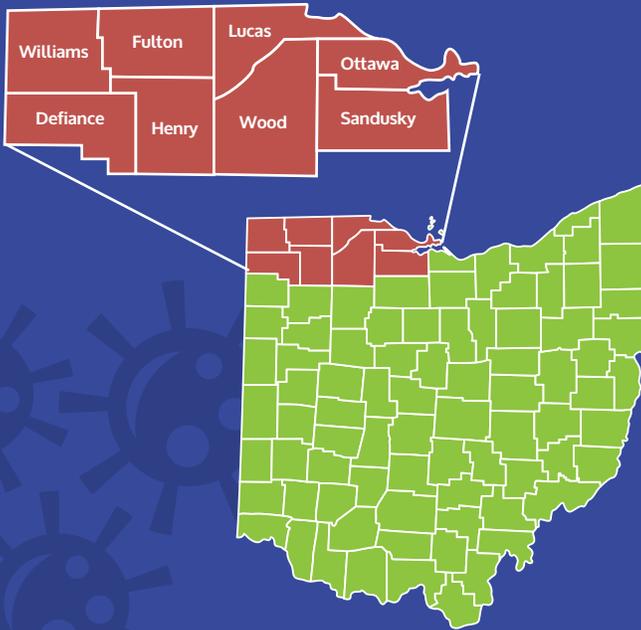
Syphilis Cases in Region 1



# DISEASE INTERVENTION

Disease intervention aims to prevent and control the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STI), including HIV, to protect and promote community health.

TLCHD's Disease Intervention team oversees eight counties in Region 1. Efforts focused on in these counties include: education /awareness campaigns, equipping community members with knowledge about STI and HIV prevention, safer sex practices, and the importance of routine testing. Confidential counseling is available to support individuals throughout the process, and partner notification services are offered to prevent further transmission.



**87** New Clients Enrolled in PrEP



Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) is **99%** effective in preventing HIV when taken as directed by a medical provider



**112,401** Condoms Distributed

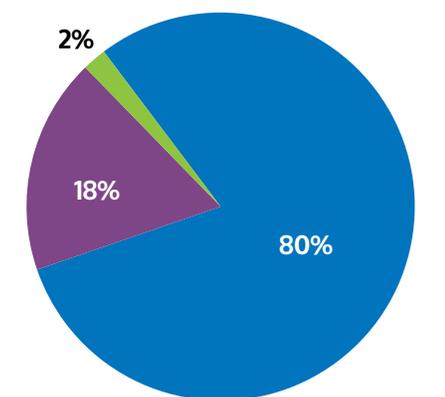
## HIV

African American women are Disproportionately Impacted by HIV and Syphilis

**49%** of ALL new HIV diagnosis were among African Americans

**82%** of new HIV cases were Lucas County residents.

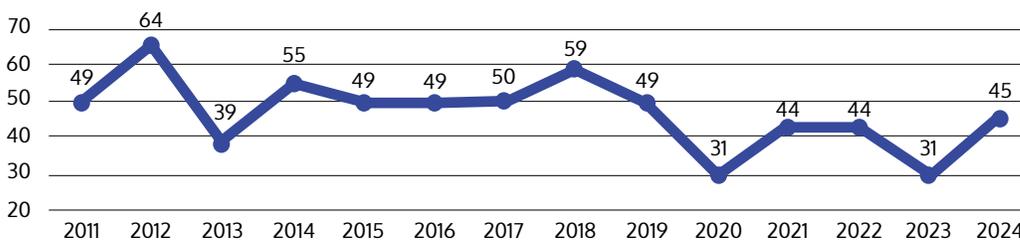
HIV & Gender



Male Female\* Trans Female

\* 100% of women with new HIV diagnoses were African American.

HIV Cases in Region 1

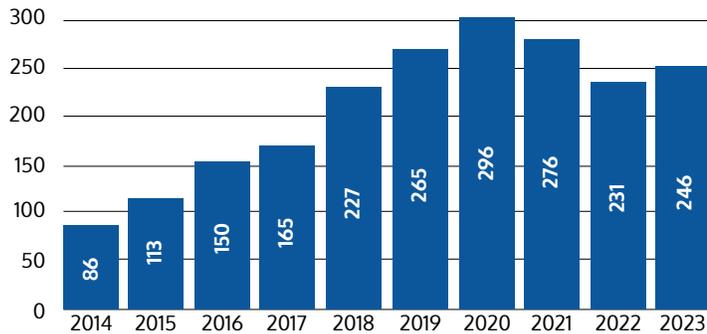


# OVERDOSE PREVENTION

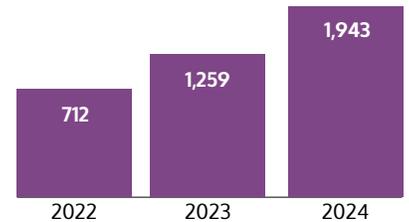
Substance use and overdose remain critical public health concerns in Ohio, where high rates of drug-related deaths are driven by the misuse of prescription pills, heroin, and fentanyl.

TLCHD collaborates with the Lucas County Coroner’s Office to review overdose fatalities. In 2023, fentanyl was involved in roughly 96% of Lucas County’s opioid-related overdose deaths.

**Opioid-Related Fatalities in Lucas County**



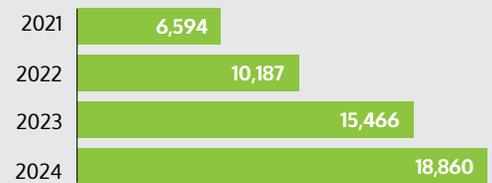
**Overdose Reversals**



**Overdose prevention strategies in 2024:**

- Building coalitions and fostering regional collaboration
- Expanding community-wide naloxone distribution
- Collecting, analyzing, and sharing data
- Providing syringe services

**Naloxone Distribution in Lucas County**



**Mail Orders Completed: 346**

**New Strategies & Regional Collaboration**

The Regional Linkage to Care grant from the Ohio Department of Health provided \$10,000 in funding to eligible counties in Northwest Ohio, enabling local health departments, mental health boards, and substance use coalitions to implement crucial initiatives:

- Test systems for overdose alerts
- Community awareness campaigns
- International Overdose Awareness Day events
- Community access to naloxone through vending machines and naloxone boxes

**Leading through Education**

Sharing best practices in overdose prevention was a key priority in 2024. The Overdose Prevention team delivered nearly 300 educational presentations to local, state, and national audiences, fostering greater understanding and engagement in the fight against substance use and overdose.

TLCHD staff also provided on-site training for administering naloxone, taught stigma reduction strategies, and supplied naloxone kits. The training encompassed:

Ohio Department of Health  
**Regional Map**



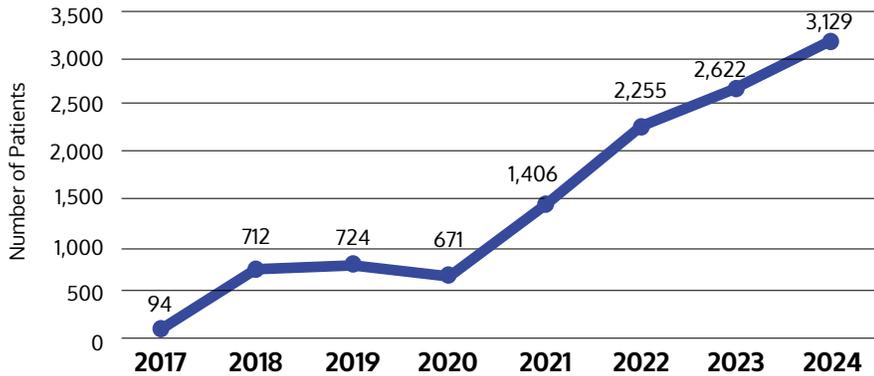
**48** Schools/University Sessions

**50** Treatment or Recovery Center Sessions

**23** Law Enforcement/Public Safety Sessions

# NORTHWEST OHIO SYRINGE SERVICES (NOSS)

## NOSS Clinic Patients



NOSS services reach participants from:

**84** zip codes across  
**8** different states and  
**21** Ohio counties.

## Innovative Approaches for Improving the Health of People Who Use Drugs

In 2024, NOSS and the Zepf Center formed a new partnership to test for and treat Hepatitis C at pop-up events. Individuals diagnosed with Hepatitis C undergoing treatment, received care kits containing essential items for avoiding re-infection, such as razors and toothbrushes.

NOSS staff observed participants shifting use from 27g syringes to 31g syringes. 31g syringes are smaller and cause less trauma to the body.

 **35,064** Fentanyl Test Strips Distributed

**Deterra bags** were introduced as a new resource in TLCHD's distribution efforts. These allow the safe disposal of unwanted, expired, or unused prescription medications. Users simply place medications in the bag, add water, seal it, and then dispose of it in the regular trash.

 **1,557** Deterra Bags Distributed

## Lucas County Substance Use Response Coalition

## Essential Public Health Service #4

Synthetic opioids, particularly fentanyl, remain a leading cause of overdose deaths. However, many overdoses in Ohio involve a dangerous combination of drugs, such as fentanyl mixed with stimulants like cocaine and methamphetamine, further complicating the crisis. To acknowledge these evolving challenges, the formerly known Lucas County Opiate Coalition was renamed. The coalition collaborated on Operation BRIDGE (Bridging Recovery & Interdiction Data Gathering Enforcement), an initiative of the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Office of Law Enforcement, aiming to reduce drug supply and demand, while prioritizing treatment for qualifying individuals. The Lucas County event, organized by the Sheriff's Office Drug Abuse Response Team, captured an estimated 120 attendees.

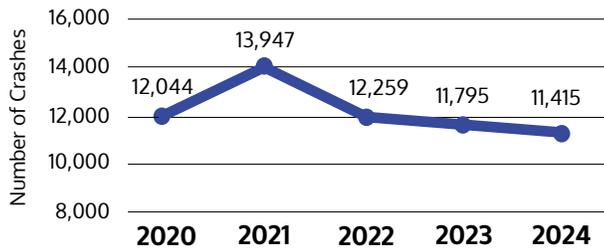


# TRAFFIC SAFETY

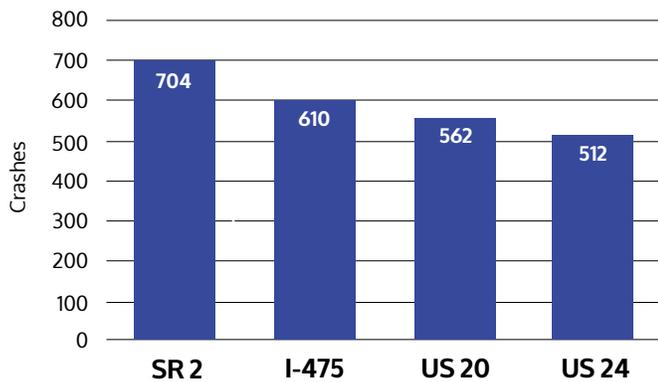
**11,415** total # of crashes in Lucas County

**29** total # of fatalities

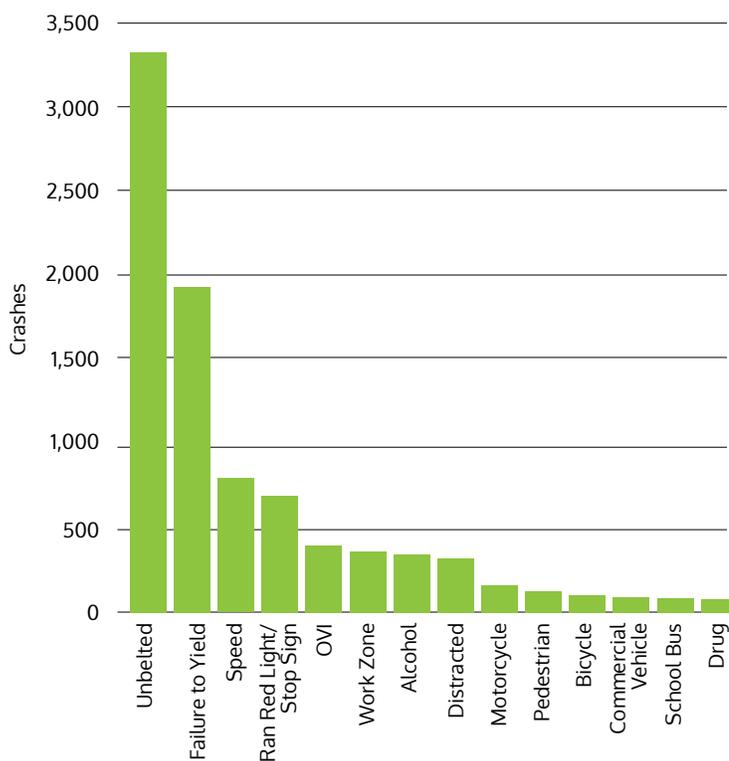
Crashes Each Year



Highest Crash Routes



2024 Crash Variables, Lucas County



Top 3 Months for Crashes

- April
- May
- October

More crashes happened on **Fridays** than any other day of the week.

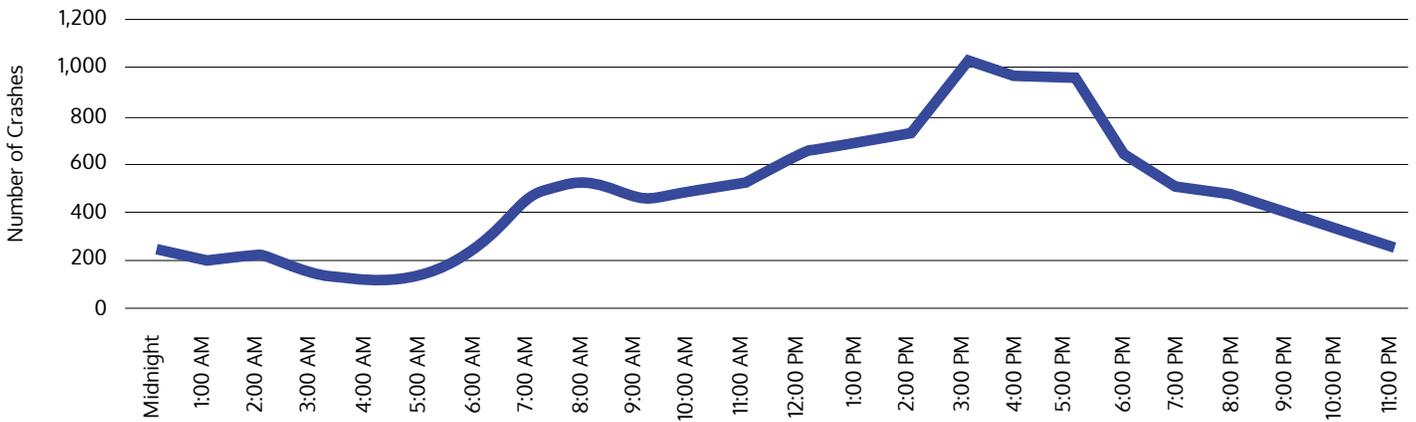


Traffic Safety collaborated with the University of Toledo Medical Center, Maumee Fire Department, City of Toledo, OVI Task Force, and other local law enforcement agencies in the Click It or Ticket campaign and Buckle Up Batter Up, both highlighting the lifesaving importance of seatbelt use, which is the law.



\*Data courtesy of Ohio State Highway Patrol

In 2024, more than 25% of crashes happened between 3pm and 6pm.



Essential Public Health Service #2

Evidence-Based Interventions

TLCHD’s Traffic Safety program develops strategies to prevent further injury through monitoring real-time data and identifying patterns and priority areas of focus.

**3314**  
crashes  
involved those  
15-24

**Teens and Young Adults**

Local schools – Toledo Public Schools, Springfield, Washington Local, and St. John’s Jesuit – hosted Arrive Alive and Think Fast Interactive, which focus on shaping the messaging for young drivers, and showcasing strategies to promote safe driving and reduce traffic fatalities. The Traffic Safety Program also worked with Autism Model School to teach pedestrian and passenger safety skills to students.

**4,117**  
crashes  
involved those  
over 55

**Mature Drivers (55+)**

13 CarFit events assisted mature adults adjust their vehicle settings for optimal safety, including seat positions, seat belts, steering wheels, and mirrors.



**Roundabout Training**

TLCHD partnered with the City of Toledo and local driving schools to develop a unique roundabout training for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. Three training sessions were conducted in 2024. This innovative approach was highlighted at the 2024 Roundabout Conference.

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

## Body Art



**66** Standard Inspections  
**55** Licensed Establishments  
**6** Body Art Complaint Inspection

## Schools



**173** (K-12) schools in Lucas County for August 2022 – June 2024 School Year  
**344** Standard School Inspections Completed 2023 – 2024 School Year

## Pools/Spas



**336** Pool/Spa Standard Inspections  
**229** Licensed Public Pool and Spas in Lucas County  
**3** Pool Complaint Inspections

## Bathing Beaches



**3** Standard Inspections  
**3** Licensed Public Bathing Beaches

## Campgrounds



**14** Licensed Campgrounds  
**5** Temporary Campgrounds  
**22** Standard Inspections

## City of Toledo Livestock Permits



**2** Livestock Variances Issued  
**6** Chicken Permits (5 renewal, 1 new)

## Lucas County Jail



**4** Standard Inspections

## Rodent Control



**1,161** Total Inspections

## Rabies Control



**451** Bite Reports Completed  
**23** Specimens Sent for Testing  
**0** Positive Rabies Sample

## Municipal Solid Waste Landfill

**1** Licensed  
**6** Inspections

## Construction and Demolition Debris Landfills

**1** Licensed  
**12** Inspections

## Infectious Waste Treatment Facilities

**1** Licensed  
**6** Inspections

## Compost Facilities

**12** Registered  
**12** Inspections

## Environmental Assessments

**25** Requested Completed

## Household Sewage Treatment Systems (HSTS)

**39** Permits Issued for New Installation  
**53** Permits for Replacement Installation  
**20** Permits for Alterations  
**99** Final Inspections  
**126** 12-Month Inspections  
**118** Site Reviews  
**402** Inspections  
**8** Mortgage Inspections  
**169** Property Improvement Evaluations  
**26** Lot Split Reviews

## Private Water Systems

**31** New Wall Installation Permits  
**2** Well Alteration Permits  
**10** Well Sealing Permits  
**4** Private Water System Mortgage Inspections  
**185** Water Samples Collected and Tested

## Operation & Maintenance Permits

**84** New  
**74** Renewed

## Stormwater Program

**161** Inspections  
**218** Outfall Inspections

## Small Flow on Lot Sewage Treatment System

**31** Inspections

**Semi-Public Program**

265 Inspections

6 Aerator Unit Inspections

**Potable Water Hauler Program**

3 Inspections

**Sewage Hauler Program**

14 Companies

23 Trucks Inspected

**Top Nuisance Complaints**

- Rodent/CDBG
- Demolition
- Housing (trash)
- Pest/Vermin
- Unsanitary Conditions

**Stormwater Education**

Michael Butcher, a storm water program inspector led the Student Watershed Watch in collaboration with Northview High School's Environmental Science class. Throughout the school day, the inspector guided students in sampling and analyzing stream water chemistry, identifying macroinvertebrates, and ensuring safety around Tenmile Creek.

Students tested for phosphorus, nitrate, pH, alkalinity, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, and stream flow. They also collected and identified various species, including water pennies, caddisfly larvae, mayfly larvae, crayfish, snails, and darters.



## HOUSEHOLD SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM PROGRAM

**Monclova & Angola Roads Sewer Connection Projects**

In partnership with the Lucas County Engineer's Office, two major wastewater infrastructure projects launched in 2024 to connect properties to a sanitary sewer system. Public Health Orders require the affected properties (Monclova and Angola Roads) to connect.

The Monclova Road project, beginning in 2025, will serve over 30 properties, including commercial, family-owned, and rental properties. The Angola Road project impacts 33 properties, with 20 required to connect within a year.

Sanitary sewers play a critical role in managing wastewater, preventing contamination, and reducing health risks from aging septic systems. These upgrades support cleaner water, healthier communities, and long-term property value.

To keep residents informed, community meetings were held. The Angola Road meeting in August covered the transition from septic systems to the sewer line, while the Monclova Road meeting in November provided project updates and connection expectations. Both meetings allowed residents to ask questions, share concerns, and learn about this important public health initiative.



# LEAD PREVENTION

No amount of lead in the blood is safe. TLCHD's lead poisoning prevention program aims to protect children and families from the harmful effects of lead exposure, which can cause serious health issues, especially in young children. The program involves education, screening, early intervention, and environmental remediation to reduce lead hazards in homes.



TLCHD partnered with the following organizations to provide lead screenings and education:

- Lucas County Family Council, Head Start classrooms
- Wayman Palmer YMCA
- Local pediatric providers
- Mercy's Healthy Connection's Community Health Workers

Lead staff participated in multiple community events:

- Sponsored and participated in the City of Toledo's Homeownership Fair, which provided information and education for potential first-time home buyers.
- The Lead team collaborated with the City of Toledo and co-sponsored the city's Housing and Community Department's Landlord Education Fair. This was an educational event where landlords could ask questions and seek clarification on their responsibilities regarding tenant issues. Lead prevention was among the topics discussed.



## Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (ODH lead)

**550** 3.5-9  $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  Cases received and completed

**90** 10+ case received

**29** Risk assessments

**30** Lead Clearances (from 10+ cases when lead abatement completed)

**16** Community Outreach, Doctor Office visits

## City of Toledo Lead Ordinance

**383** Total Number of Lead Safe Certificates Issued



TLCHD's Registered Environmental Health Specialists performed inspections at **Toledo Tattoo Festival** (May 3-5, 2024) to ensure artists were adhering to public health safety standards.

## Essential Public Health Service #6



# FOOD SAFETY



## MOBILE FOOD TRUCK ROUNDUP

**86** Mobile Food Truck Units in Attendance

Up **30%** over 2023

### Food Facilities

**2,815** Licensed

**4,728** Standard Inspections Completed

**1,647** Critical Control Point Inspections Completed

### Mobile Food Facilities

**269** Licensed

**375** Inspections

### Plan Review

**295** Total Plans Submitted

**29%** of all plans submitted were for Mobile Food Units

### Temporary Food Events

**234** Licenses for

**219** Events

### Vending Machine Food Licenses

**123** Licenses

**66** Inspections

**1,075** Total Reinspections, Consultations and Complaints



## Essential Public Health Service #6

Toledo Fire and Rescue Department requested TLCHD's presence at an after-hours illegal operation. The Toledo Police Department executed a search warrant for 3326 Stickney Avenue, Toledo, Ohio. The Toledo Police Department, Toledo Lucas County Health Department, and the City of Toledo Code Enforcement and Building Inspection divisions conducted a joint task force inspection where illegal activities had been observed. A Registered Environmental Health Specialist (food safety inspector) observed an illegal food service operation, where many other health code violations were noted. A cease-and-desist letter was sent to the owner of the property and posted at the facility.

# COMMUNITY RESPONSE

In 2024, TLCHD's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Staff engaged in targeted exercises, trainings, and collaborations with local and regional partners to enhance Lucas County's readiness for emergency response and community resilience.

## Key Highlights:

- TLCHD's Response Planner was one of 2 from Northwest Ohio's 18 counties selected to contribute feedback to the state's PHEP Focus Group, ensuring local preparedness aligned with best practices.
- TLCHD participated in the Hazardous Material Spill Exercise with the Lucas County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Lucas County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), and Fulton County EMA to enhance multi-county readiness for a hazardous material release.
- Participated in the Toledo Junction Coalition's Listen, Lead, Serve disaster preparedness event to educate the community on emergency readiness.
- TLCHD's active participation in Lucas County LEPC and the Nuclear Emergency Planning Advisory Committee strengthened local stakeholder collaborations on hazardous materials response and nuclear preparedness.

## Essential Public Health Service #2



# TLCHD IN THE NEWS

## January

Ashland Manor  
Naloxone in Rural Communities

## February

Norovirus  
Infant Mortality and Safe Sleep  
Camping and the Eclipse  
Over the Counter Naloxone

## March

Mobile Roundup  
St. Patrick's Day Drunk Driving  
Teen Overdose Prevention  
Community Clothing Drive  
CarFit Event  
Growing WIC Numbers

## April

Minority Health Month  
New TLCHD Health Commissioner  
Health Impact of Lead Poisoning  
Mock Crash Event at Clay High School  
Breastfeeding and Jury Duty  
Measles and MMR

## May

Click It or Ticket

## June

Buckle Up, Batter Up  
Beat the Heat  
National HIV Testing Day Events

## July

Healthy Food Small Market  
Grilling Safety  
Mosquitoes  
Shots 4 Tots  
Fentanyl Testing Strips

## August

Pool Safety  
Springfield Roundabout Safety  
Breastfeeding Baby Shower  
Chalk the Walk  
Cancer Cluster Concerns  
COVID Vaccine  
Food Safety & Expiration Dates  
COVID Trends and Recommendations

## September

Syphilis Awareness  
Rats  
Overdose Deaths  
Sewage Leak

## October

Whooping Cough  
Violence Reduction Committee  
Infant Safe Sleep  
Restaurant Closure  
Flu and COVID-19 Vaccines  
Asthma Dashboard

## November

Housing Complaints  
Maternal and Infant Death Rates and Causes  
Thanksgiving Food Safety

## December

Winter Clothing Drive  
Winter-Related Injuries  
Zoonotic Diseases  
Kids and Cannabis  
First Flu Death of Season  
Post-Holiday Illnesses



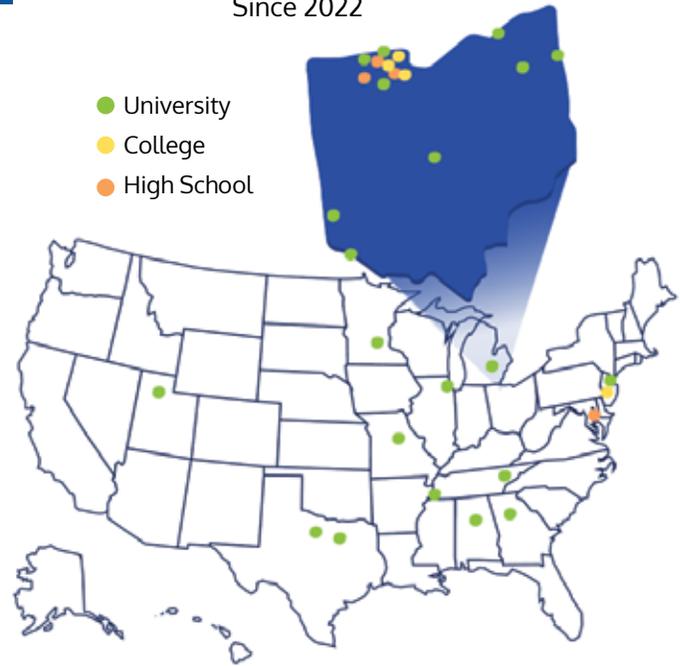
# ACADEMIC PUBLIC HEALTH

## Essential Public Health Service #8

In 2024, TLCHD's Academic Health Department (AHD) built on its 2022 foundation, fostering partnerships with academic institutions to offer internships, clinical rotations, mentoring, and professional training aligned with public health competencies. These efforts bridge academic learning with real-world practice and support workforce development. The AHD is nationally recognized as a model of promising practice.

## Participating Schools By Type

Since 2022



The AHD reached **1,019 students** through direct student experiences and career fair, classroom, clinical rotation, and presentation events. This is a **68.2%** increase in students reached from 2023. Total hours across all student experiences increased **18.4%** to **3,381.25 hours** from 2023.

- 

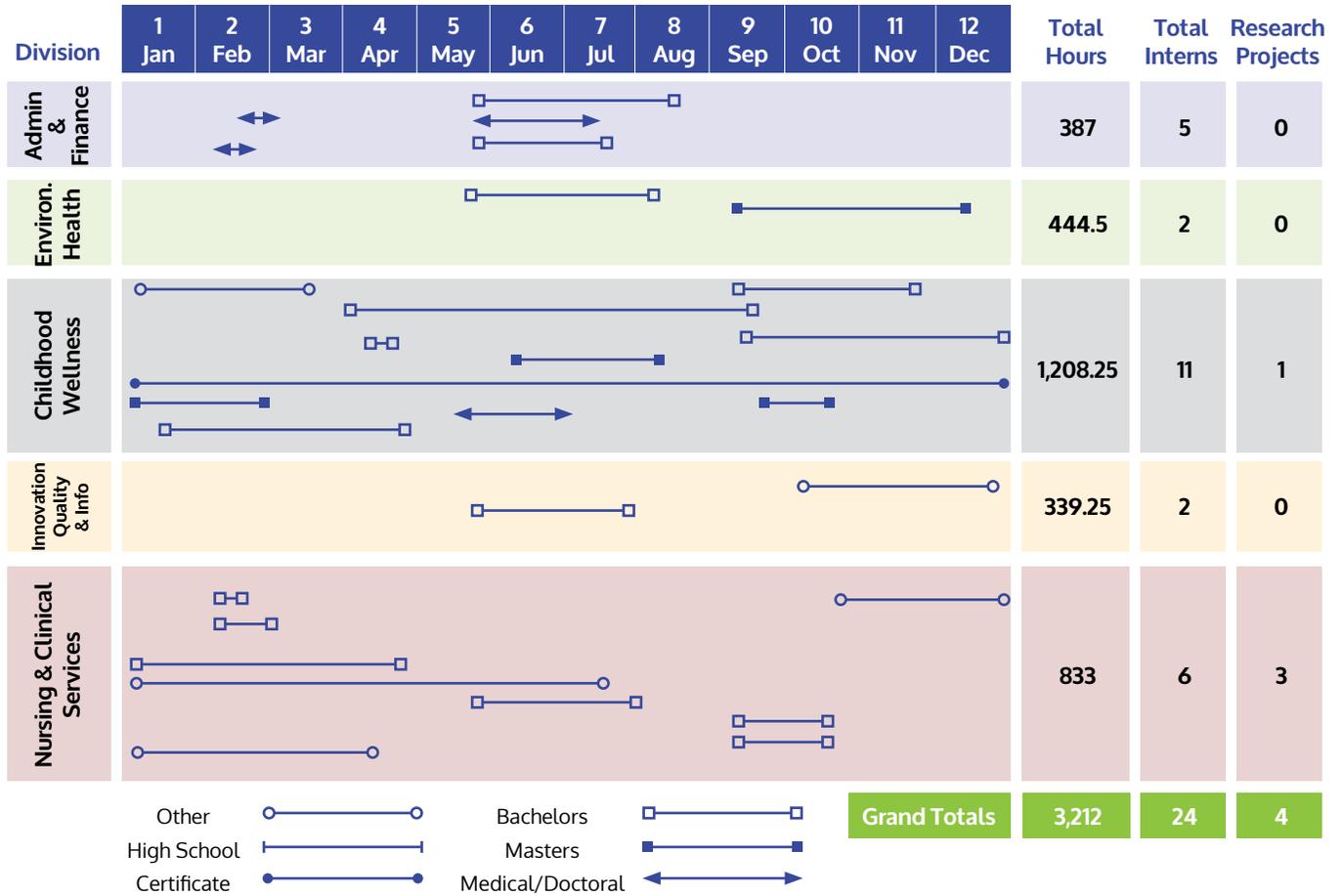
**Tech Cred**  
**104** courses completed  
**41** staff completed
- 

**\$38,192.22** saved in training costs
- 

**AOHC Tuition Reimbursement**  
**8** employees reimbursed  
 a total of **\$31,885** for  
**3** Masters degrees,  
**3** Certifications,  
**1** Bachelors and  
**1** Associates degree



## 2024 TLCHD Interns



## 2024 TLCHD Student Events

Event Type	1 Jan	2 Feb	3 Mar	4 Apr	5 May	6 Jun	7 Jul	8 Aug	9 Sep	10 Oct	11 Nov	12 Dec	Total Students
<b>Career/Job Fair</b>			100		400					175			675
<b>Classroom Visit</b>	16		21	48	49						40		174
<b>Clinical Rotation</b>		17	7		3	11			5	26			69
<b>Presentation/Tour</b>		22	22		1	21		6					72
<b>Career Exploration</b>			1										1
<p>*NOTE: total hours completed across all event types is 169.25 hrs.</p>												<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>991</b>

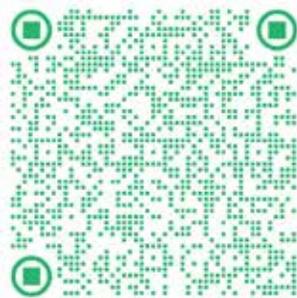
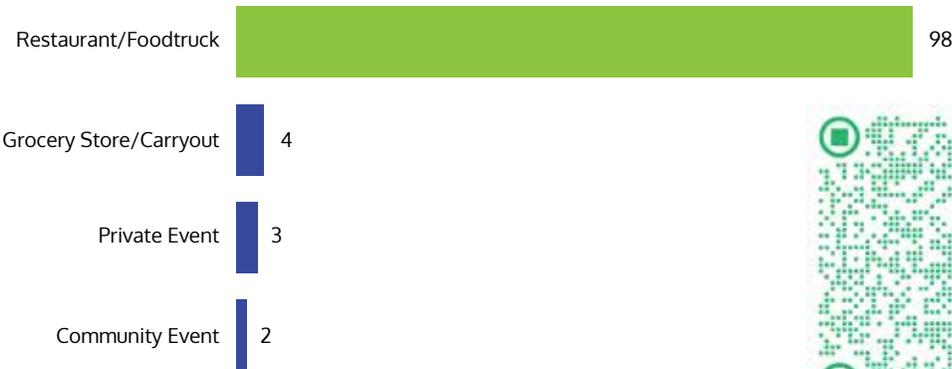
# QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

- The Quality Improvement Council (QIC) was rebuilt to increase communication and cooperation throughout the department. Composed of front-line staff from all areas of the department, the QIC will also monitor data metrics to proactively identify areas for improvement. Ultimately, the QIC is tasked with the promotion of a Culture of Quality that will demonstrate our commitment to providing excellence in service and innovation in public health.
- A Culture of Quality assessment was conducted in 2024, created by the National Association of County and City Health Officials. Distributed to both frontline staff and leadership, this assessment helped the agency to know where it falls on NACCHO’s Roadmap to a Culture of Quality and to identify the steps to move us forward in these efforts. TLCHD currently falls within PHASE 3 of 6, *Informal or Ad Hoc QI Activities*.

## Food Survey Data

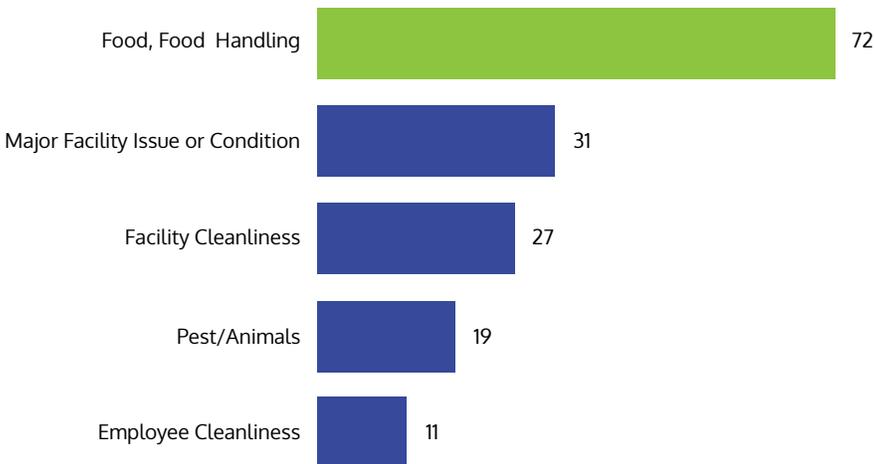
In 2024, TLCHD received **274 complaints** through our Food Safety & Illness Reporting Survey in addition to complaints received over the phone.

### Sickness after Eating (Food-borne Illness) complaints



Food Safety & Illness Reporting

### Food Facility Condition/Safety Reports





Jennifer Gottschalk, Environmental Health Director, and Jodi Vaughn, Supervisor of Food Safety, in collaboration with Toledo Fire Department Inspectors, presented at the NWOEHA Fall Conference. Their session, Collaborative Effort: Working Together to Serve Safe Street Food, highlighted the Mobile Food Roundup's origins and its expansion into a regional initiative for 2025. The roundup offers food trucks a convenient one-stop shop for fire inspections and municipal registrations.



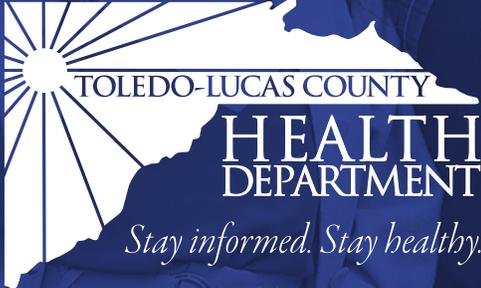
Amy Abodeely, Dietitian/Creating Healthy Communities Coordinator, presented Expanding Access to Locally Grown Produce for Recipients of Nutrition Benefit at the Urban Food Systems Symposium held in Columbus on June 11th, 2024. The poster presentation provided an in-depth look at TLCHD's pop-up Farmers' Market project and the nutritional incentives redeemed from 2020-2023.



Lauren Stein and Zachary Barr, Environmental Health Specialists with TLCHD's Swimming Pool Program, presented at the Northwest Ohio Environmental Health Association Fall Conference. They highlighted a project involving improved recordkeeping, scanning pool plans, capturing photos, and using Microsoft Teams for real-time access to licensed pool information in Lucas County.



Health Educator Tony Dible and Injury Prevention Supervisor Mahjida Berryman presented at the NACCHO 360 Conference in Detroit. Mahjida shared best practices in syringe distribution, while Tony led a session on establishing effective Naloxone programs for first responders.



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department is committed to being the leader in public health by promoting and protecting the health of all people where they live, learn, work, and play.

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Phone: (419) 213-4100 , Fax: (419) 213-4017  
24/7 Contact: 419.936.2020  
[www.lucascountyhealth.com](http://www.lucascountyhealth.com)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Administrative Services

Accounts Payable  
(419) 213-4009  
Birth and Death Certificates  
(419) 213-4832

### Innovation, Quality, and Informatics

Academic Public Health  
(419) 213-4145  
Epidemiology  
Phone: (419) 213-4205  
Fax: (419) 213-4546  
Emergency Preparedness & Medical  
Reserve Corp  
(419) 213-4073

### Environmental Health

General Environmental Issues  
P:(419) 213-4100 option 4  
F: (419) 213-4141

### Health Services

Adult & Travel Immunizations  
(419) 213-4163  
HIV Prevention  
(419) 213-4131

Reproductive Health & Wellness Center  
(419) 213-2013  
Shot 4 Tots 'n Teens  
(419) 213-4121

### Childhood Wellness

Breastfeeding Support  
(419) 213-2124  
Healthy Start Program  
(419) 213-2660  
Creating Healthy Communities  
(419) 213-4116  
WIC Appointments  
(419) 213-4422  
Minority Health  
(419) 213-2882

### Injury Prevention/Harm Reduction

Northwest Ohio Syringe Services  
(419) 213-2655  
Opioid Education and Naloxone  
Distribution  
(419) 213-4168