



Racine County
Public Health

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

RACINE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION
9531 RAYNE RD, STE V
STURTEVANT, WI 53177

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH OFFICER

While 2022 was a year of changes for Racine County Public Health Division, 2023 was a year for achievement. As we move forward, our commitment to public health remains unwavering. Public health is dedicated to the well-being of entire populations, aiming to create healthier communities for all individuals. Health departments play a crucial role in offering public health protections across various areas through delivery of tailored services that cater to the specific needs of their communities.

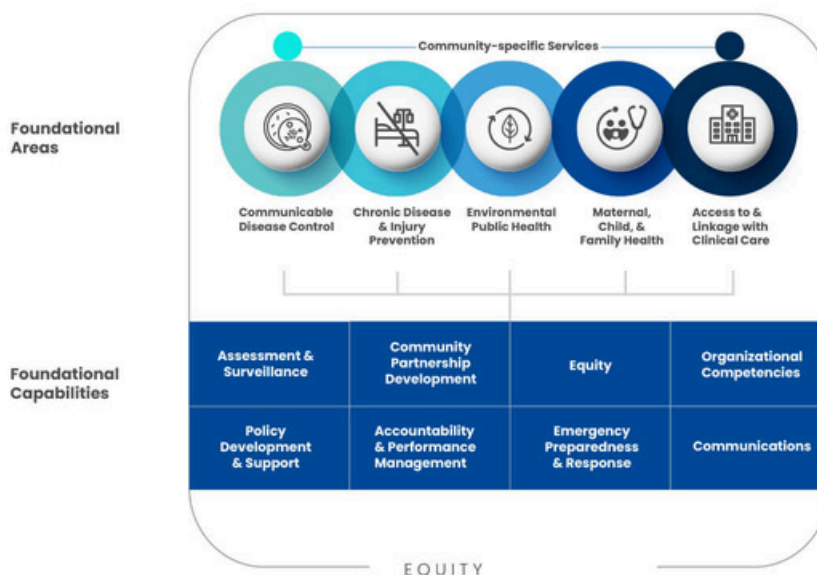
In the upcoming pages, you will find details about Racine County Public Health and the status of public health in Racine County for 2023. The **Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS)** framework has been applied to outline the responsibilities of Racine County Public Health and explain its role in our thriving community.

Foundational Areas in public health programs encompass essential, topic-specific services designed to enhance community health. These areas represent the basic level of service that should be accessible in all communities. Additionally, Public Health Infrastructure requires eight **Foundational Capabilities**, which are the necessary skills and abilities required to support fundamental public health measures, programs, and activities crucial for community health, well-being, and achieving fair outcomes.

We would like to extend gratitude to our partners, residents, and staff for committing to a healthier community for all who live, work, and play in Racine County. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in this vital endeavor. Your trust and collaboration are invaluable to our mission. We look forward to another year of making a meaningful impact and achieving new milestones in public health.

JEFFREY LANGLIEB
HEALTH OFFICER

Foundational Public Health Services



February 2022

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

- Jeff Langlieb, Health Officer
- Keith Hendricks, EH Health Manager/Deputy Health Officer
- Ashlee Franzen, Community Health Manager
- Jennifer Jozwiak, Fiscal Analyst

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (EH)

- Chuck Dykstra, EH Supervisor
- Jennifer Loizzo, EH Registered Sanitarian
- Kevin Plachinski, EH Registered Sanitarian
- Lindsay Visona, EH Sanitarian
- Angel True-McGinnis, Public Health Specialist (EH)

COMMUNITY HEALTH/HOME VISITING

- Kate Dickinson, Community Health Supervisor
- Kari Villalpando, Public Health HV Supervisor
- Erin Donaldson, Public Health HV Supervisor
- Sai Moua, Public Health Nurse
- Yesenia Arjon, PH Educator Home Visitor
- Claire Burns, PH Educator Home Visitor
- Linda Garza, PH Nurse Home Visitor
- Kelley Marshman, PH Nurse Home Visitor
- Kristina Geniesse, PH Educator Home Visitor
- Jack Ray, PH Educator Home Visitor
- Brittany Gunn, PH Nurse Home Visitor
- Wendi Huffman, PH Nurse Home Visitor
- Fred McCann, Disease Intervention Specialist
- Maia Dietrich, Disease Intervention Specialist

PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGY & PREPAREDNESS

- Amanda Busack, Public Health Strategist
- Carissa Brunner, Public Health Strategist
- Renee Foy, Public Health Strategist
- Darrin Ferguson, Public Health Specialist

EPIDEMIOLOGY

- Pa Chang, Epidemiologist
- Silvano Garcia, Epidemiologist

PUBLIC HEALTH CLERKS

- Amanda Davis, Public Health Clerk
- Beth Zivilik, Public Health Clerk

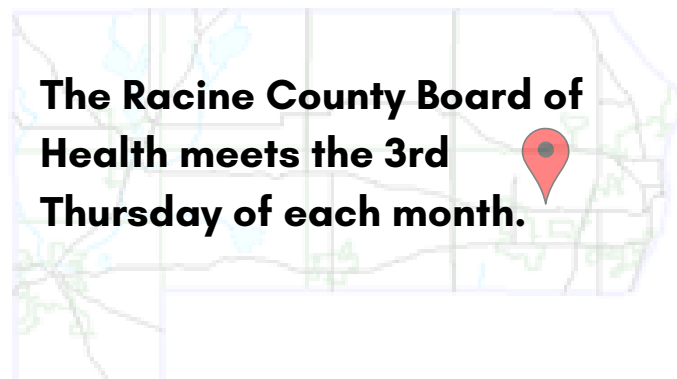
MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

- Kristan Binninger, Medical Examiner
- Madeline Baumeister, Chief Deputy Medical Examiner
- Kathryn Farrell, Deputy Medical Examiner
- Mandi Kampa, Deputy Medical Examiner
- Mark Sorensen, Deputy Medical Examiner
- Michael Gabbey, Deputy Medical Examiner
- Krystal Woda, Deputy Medical Examiner
- Leann Cornell, Deputy Medical Examiner
- Andrew Beverly, Deputy Medical Examiner
- Ana Longoria, Deputy Medical Examiner
- Todd Thorne, Deputy Medical Examiner
- Melvin Robinson, Deputy Medical Examiner Transporter
- Jasa Miller, Deputy Medical Examiner Transporter
- Matthew Landherr, Deputy Medical Examiner Transporter
- Amber Teiglan, Deputy Medical Examiner Transporter
- Nicholas Jablonski, Deputy Medical Examiner Transporter

BOARD OF HEALTH

BOARD MEMBERS

- Vikkie Prochaska, RN
- Mark DeCheck, MD
- Susan Stroupe, RN
- John Monsen
- Sherry Gruhn
- Don Trottier
- Tom Kramer
- Scott Maier
- Alison Sergio



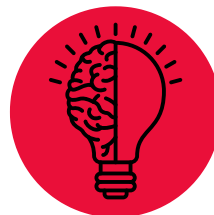
Mission

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Vision

A trusted health leader and
relevant force in the community.

Values



Innovation

Striving to find new ways to address current and future public health needs.



Leadership

Inspiring change to create health communities.



Advocacy

Creating awareness and support to improve public health outcomes.



Balance

Meeting diverse needs with strategic and ethical approaches.



Collaboration

Fostering trust and reciprocal relationships to efficiently address public health needs.



Dedication

Advancing health and wellness through relentless commitment.

General Health Department

Strategic Plan

In 2023, RCPH gathered data and feedback from employees and community partners to determine the department's goals for the next 5 years. RCPH convened a committee to evaluate the data gathered, and develop a new mission, vision, and values for the organization. The new strategic plan is set to be finalized, approved, and implemented in 2024.

Community Health Improvement Plan

In 2023, RCPH convened a team to identify priority areas to improve the population's health. These priority areas are the framework for the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) that will be presented to the Board of Health and implemented in 2024.



Health Communication and Public Outreach

RCPH provides community education using novel and existing technologies with a focus on regular messaging. In 2023, RCPH shared

- 500 facebook posts
- 492 instagram posts
- 48 instagram stories
- 2 public awareness campaigns

Other Collaboratives and Coalitions

RCPH addresses many community health needs through participation in community collaboratives and coalitions. Public health is a partner at the table to support and contribute to the work of other local agencies in provision of needed programs and services.

- SE WI Association of Local Health Depts & Boards (WALHDAB)
- Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition
- Environmental Health WALHDAB
- Wisconsin Public Health Association
- Aurora Steering Council Burlington/Walworth Market
- Aurora Steering Council Racine/Kenosha Market
- Racine County Home Visiting Stakeholders
- Family Preservation West
- SE Wisconsin Environmental Health Task Force
- Racine County Immunization Coalition

RCPH provides leadership to drive the development of public health plans and policies that are consistent throughout the state but that address local needs.



Public Health Policies and Laws

RCPH regularly develops and updates policies and procedures for internal use as well as develops, promotes, and educates elected officials regarding local and state policies and laws. In 2023, RCPH had an MOU with Kenosha County to provide public health legal authority during a time of transition.



State and National Public Health Accreditation

In 2023 RCPH completed the PHAB Year 3 report. and continued to follow the PHAB guidelines to stay on track for reaccreditation in 2025.



Workforce Development Plan & Qualified Health Professionals



Performance Management & Quality Improvement Plans

In 2023, RCPH continued to refine its PM/QI processes. The Healthy Families Racine County team worked on family engagement and enrollment. The Racine County Spike Alert protocol was also tested and a new protocol for data surveillance was put into place to improve communications and clarify sustained increases of suspected opioid overdoses in the county.

Communicable Disease Control

38%

Decrease in Influenza Hospitalizations from 2022 to 2023

88%

Decrease in COVID-19 cases from 2022-2023 (COVID-19 was no longer reportable as of 11/1/2023)

23%

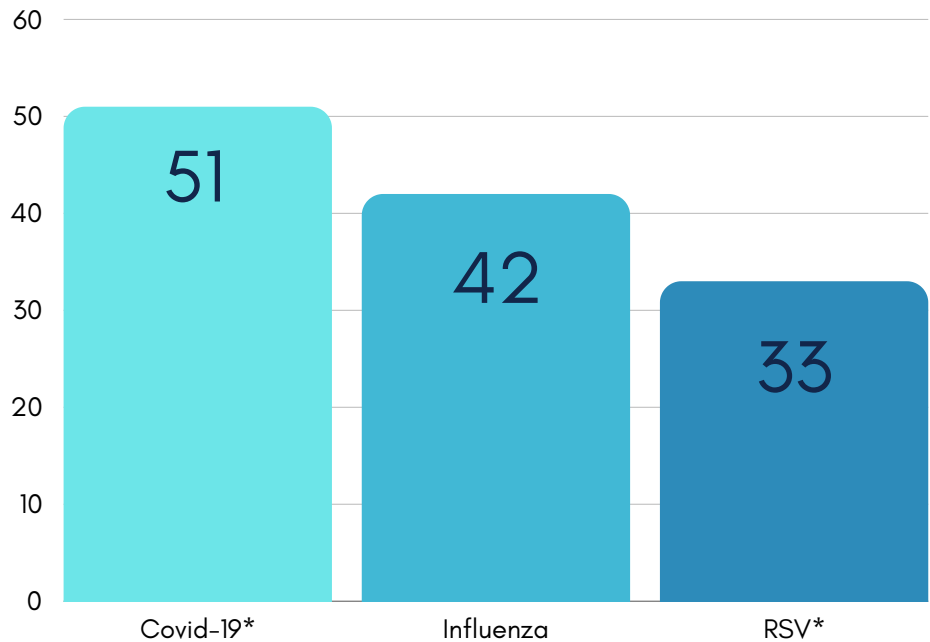
Decrease in chlamydia cases from 2022 to 2023

26

Non-COVID Outbreak Investigations

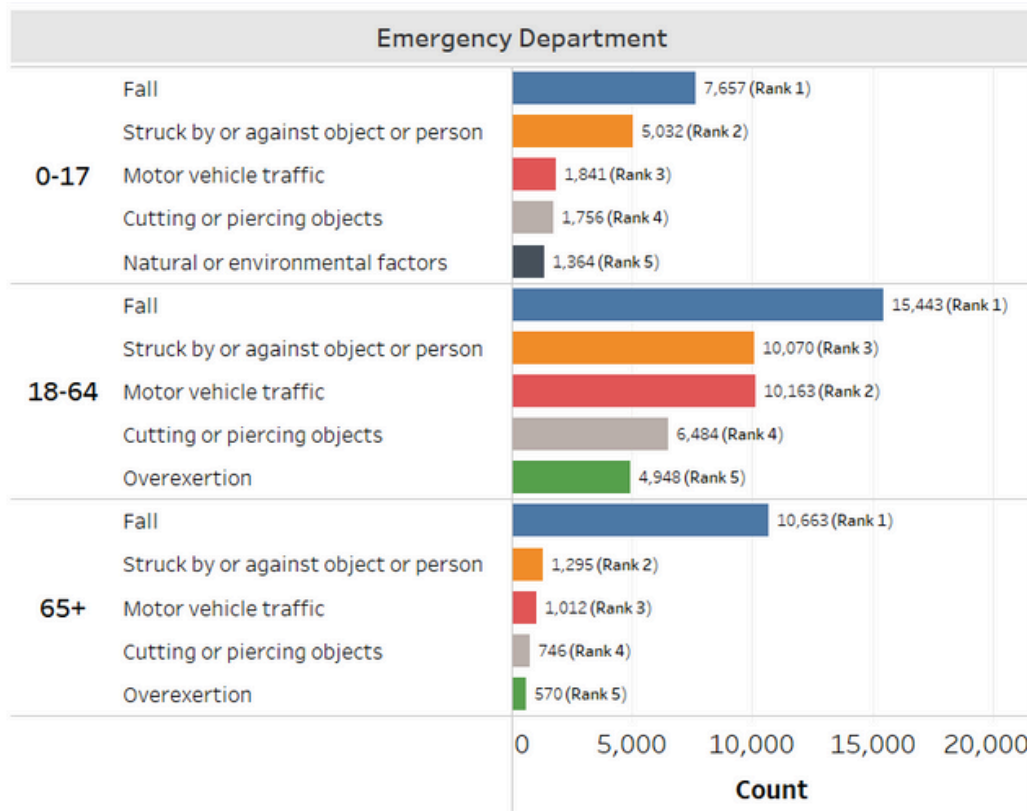
Top 5 Communicable Diseases with the Highest Incidence in 2023 (Excludes COVID)		
Rank	Disease Group	Disease
1	Sexually Transmitted	Chlamydia Trachomatis Infection
2	Sexually Transmitted	Gonorrhea
3	Vectorborne	Lyme Disease
4	Other	Mycobacterial Disease (Non-Tuberculous)
5	Respiratory	Influenza-Associated Hospitalization

2023 Selected Respiratory Disease Hospitalizations by Count



*Hospitalization cases became reportable starting 11/2023

Ranked* Causes of Injury-Related Emergency Department and Hospitalization Visits Racine County, 2016-2022



*Figure displays the top 5 causes of injury-related emergency department and hospitalization visits. Ranking is based on the total count of each cause over the timespan; 2016-2022. Highlights that can be extracted from the figure include changes in cause types, rank order, and magnitude of counts.

Source: Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system, <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/index.htm>. Injury-Related Emergency Department and Hospitalization Visits Modules, accessed 3/13/2024.

Morbidity and Mortality Data

Rank	2021* Racine County Leading Causes of Death	Deaths	Crude Rate
1	Diseases of heart	481	244.3
2	Malignant neoplasms	353	179.3
3	COVID-19	244	123.9
4	Accidents (unintentional injuries)**	119	60.4
5	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	117	59.4

*Most recent year for which there is data.

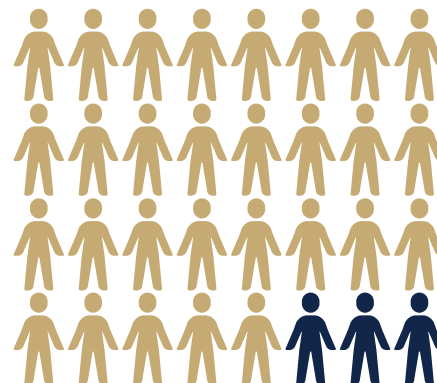
**Includes overdose deaths.

Population: 196,896

Outbreak Investigations

RCPH investigated 32 outbreaks in long term care facilities in 2023.

 **91% Acute Respiratory Infection**
 **9% Gastrointestinal**



Clinic Services

In 2023, the RCPH clinic provided:

- 128 pediatric vaccines to 28 pediatric clients (includes 20 influenza vaccines and 5 COVID-19 vaccines)
- 17 adult vaccines to 11 adult clients (includes 4 influenza vaccines and 6 COVID-19 vaccines)
- 11 TB skin tests

Population-Based Immunization Compliance Program

RCPH monitors population-based immunization rates routinely by generating letters to the parents of children approaching the age of two who may be behind on their immunizations.



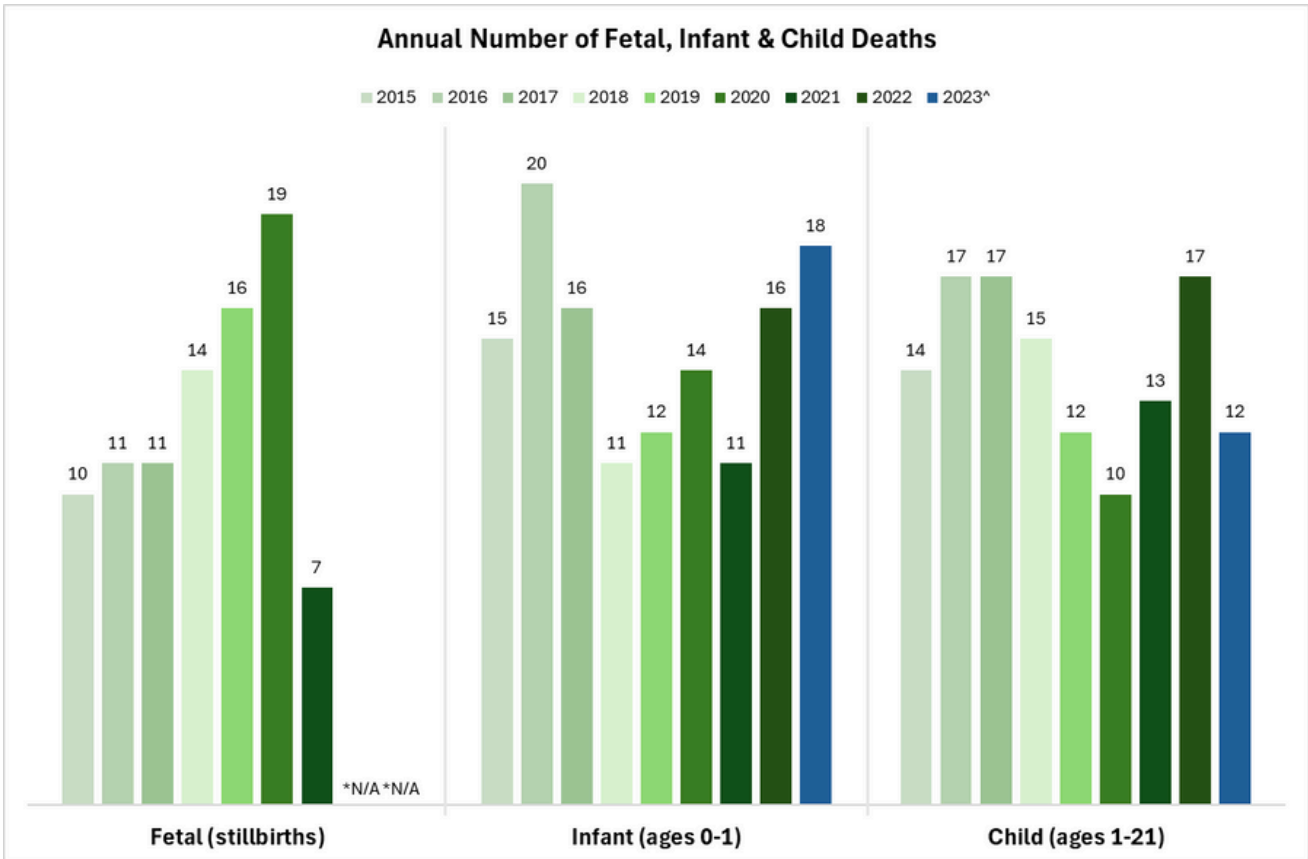
School and Daycare Immunization Compliance Program

RCPH conducts surveillance, analysis, and assurance of vaccine completion rates for licensed daycare centers and schools. In 2023, RCPH worked with 32 daycares and 38 schools to complete immunization reporting.



Fetal, Infant, & Child Death Review

The now hybrid FICDR team works to ensure accurate identification and uniform reporting of the cause, manner and relevant circumstances of every fetal, infant and child death. The goal is to identify preventable causes of death and inform program and policy direction in the community based on team findings and trend analyses. 51 cases were reviewed in 2023.

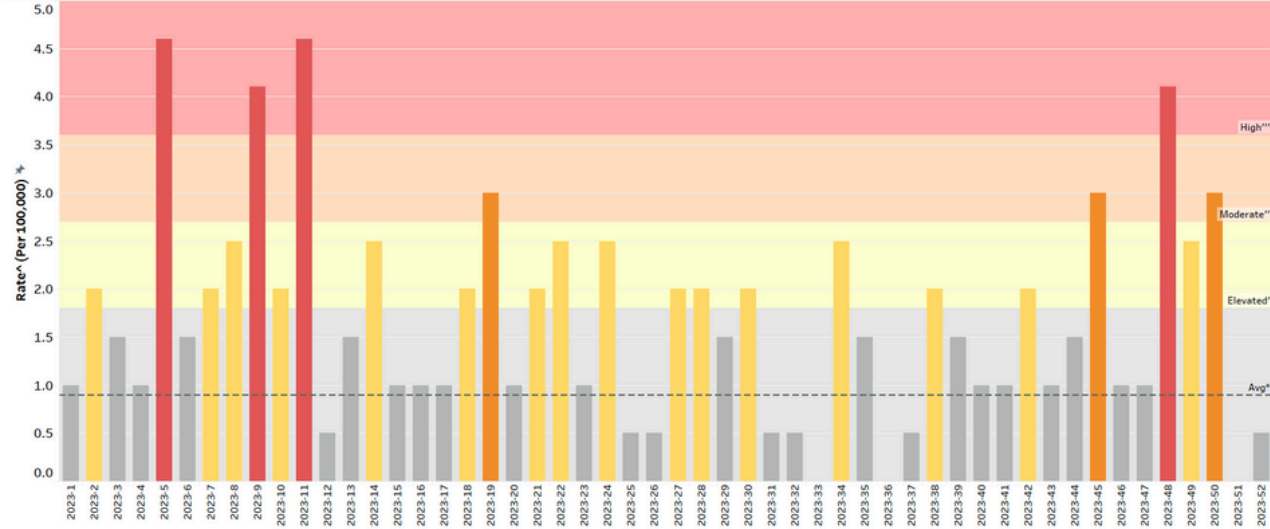


Overdose Fatality Review

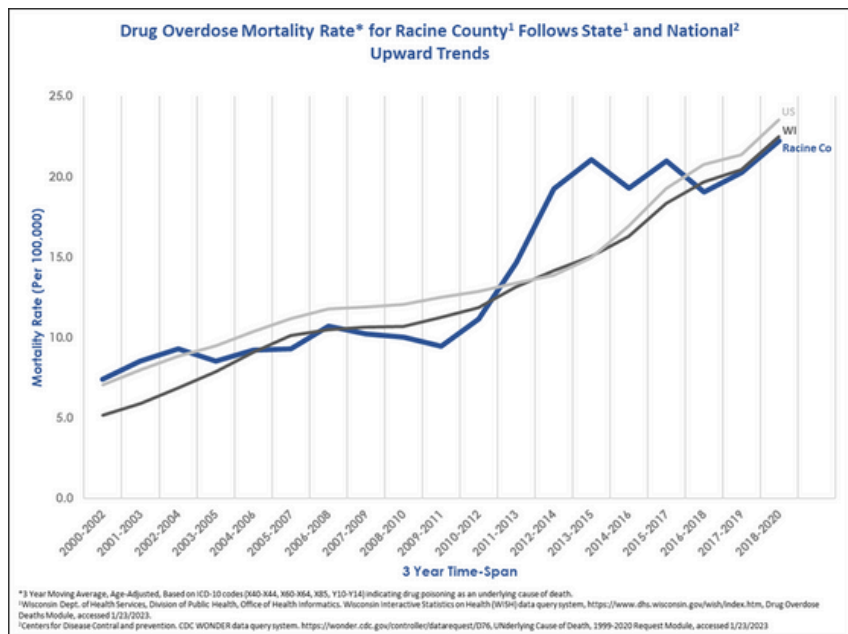
In 2023, RCPH introduced a new protocol to respond to increases in suspected opioid overdose rates in Racine County. RCPH monitored overdose data daily and The Racine County Overdose Fatality Review Team issued “Spike Alerts” once an increase was identified. Racine County had record high rates of overdose and the new protocol allowed for more timely and specific response.

20
spike alerts
issued

Rate^ of Suspected Opioid Overdoses by Week
Racine County, 2023



[^]Rate calculated as follows: (weekly total number of suspected opioid overdose cases/total population estimate for Racine County)*100,000
^{*}weekly average case rate of suspected opioid overdoses (2015-2023)
[†]Elevated category band based on 1 standard deviation from the weekly average suspected opioid overdose case rate
^{**}Moderate category band based on 2 standard deviations from the weekly average suspected opioid overdose case rate
^{***}High category band based on 3 standard deviations from the weekly average suspected opioid overdose case rate



^{*}3 Year Moving Average, Age-Adjusted, Based on ICD-10 codes (T40.X44, X60-X64, X85, Y10-Y14) indicating drug poisoning as an underlying cause of death.
¹Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics, Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISIS) data query system, <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wis/index.htm>, Drug Overdose Deaths Module, accessed 1/23/2023.
²Centers for Disease Control and prevention, CDC WONDER data query system, https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/datarequest/D76_UnderlyingCauseofDeath_1999-2020RequestModule, accessed 1/23/2023



Fentanyl Awareness Campaign

In 2023, RCPH helped to launch a fentanyl awareness public service announcement. The campaign started on May 9, 2023 which is Fentanyl Awareness Day and ran throughout spring and summer. Channels included GSTV, Hulu/Disney, Spotify, Marcus Theaters, Facebook/Instagram, Valpak, and Lamar billboards.



12,118,440+ impressions from PSA

Overdose Deaths by Year

	# of Overdose Deaths
2017	23
2018	27
2019	43
2020	54
2021	56
2022	46
2023	63

Man Therapy

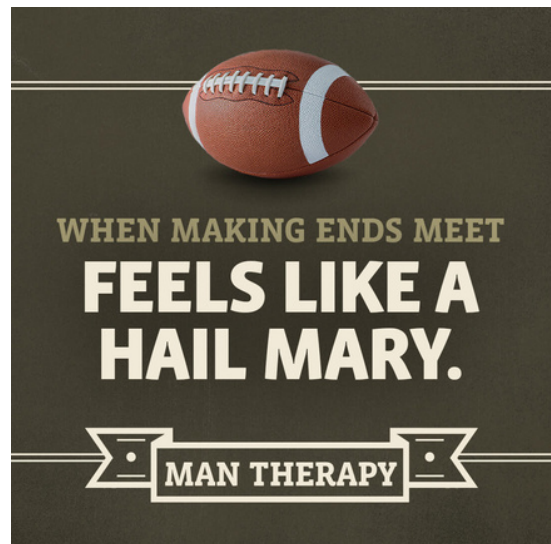
In 2023, RCPH introduced Man Therapy, a 24/7 online platform that uses humor and story telling to break down stigma around mental health care for working age men.

In Racine County between January 1 - October 3, 2023:

- 469% increase in total users in Racine Co
- 283% increase in completed head inspections
- 27 total crisis line engagements



mantherapy.org
Therapy. The way a man does it.

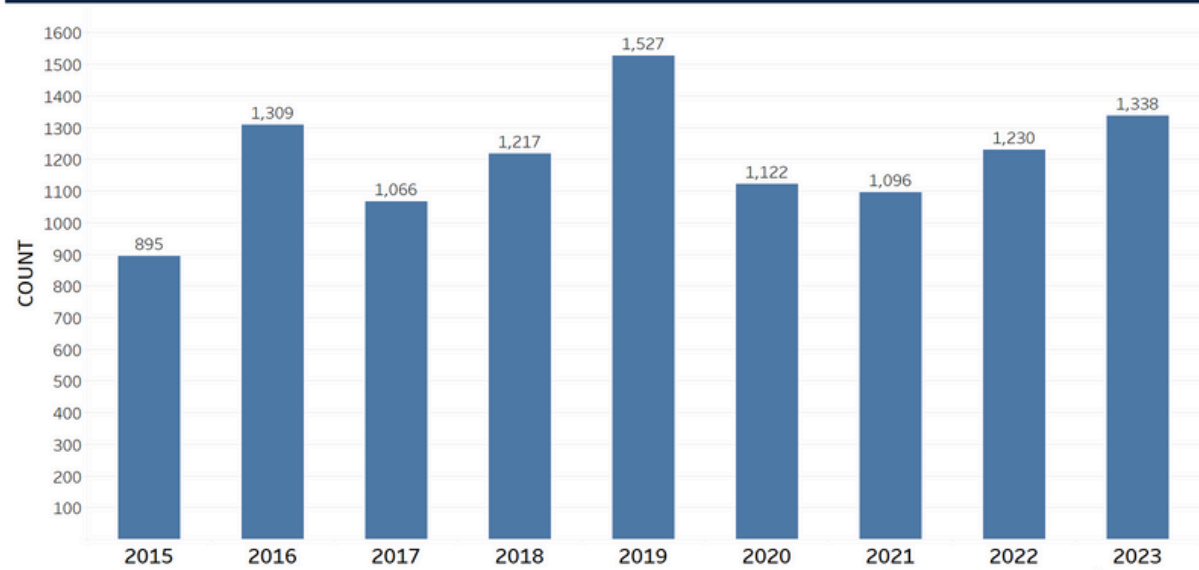


Lead Poisoning Case Management & Lead Hazard Assessments

Health department staff certified as Lead Hazard Investigators provide home assessments to determine potential source(s) of lead contamination and discuss possible solutions for remediation.



Number of Children Tested for Lead
RCPHD, 2015-2023



Source(s): Racine County Public Health Division (RCPHD), Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Surveillance System (HHLPPS)



HUD Lead Marketing Campaign

RCPH, in partnership with Kenosha County Health Department and the City of Racine Public Health Department, launched a marketing campaign for the Live Lead Safe program.

5/30/23 - 12/31/23

- 24 referrals via online eligibility form
- Marketing to 43 libraries, medical offices, municipalities, businesses and schools
- 1000+ marketing pieces, both hardcopy and digital

Radon Testing

In 2023, RCPH sold 24 short term/8 long term radon test kits. Of the short term purchased, 88% were sent by the homeowner for analysis; 67% of kits analyzed had a result greater than or equal to 4.0 pCi/l (recommended remediation level).



Human Health Hazards

“Human health hazard” means a substance, activity, or condition that is known to have the potential to cause acute or chronic illness, to endanger life, to generate or spread infectious diseases, or to otherwise injuriously affect the health of the public.



Environmental Health Licensing and Inspections

Environmental health staff provided licenses and inspections to the listed establishments.

Additionally, RCPH continued to provide mutual aid to the City of Racine Public Health Department by completing 36 inspections.

<u>Total Licenses</u>	<u>Establishment Type</u>
18	Body Art
3	Campground
618	Retail Food
23	Hotels/Motels
68	Pools
1	Summer Camps
16	Tourist rooming Houses
747	TOTAL for 2022-2023

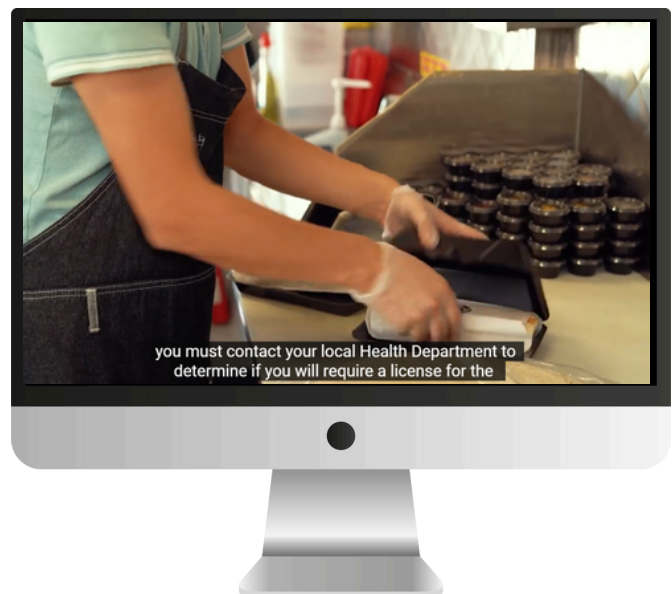
1207
inspections



Food Safety Classes

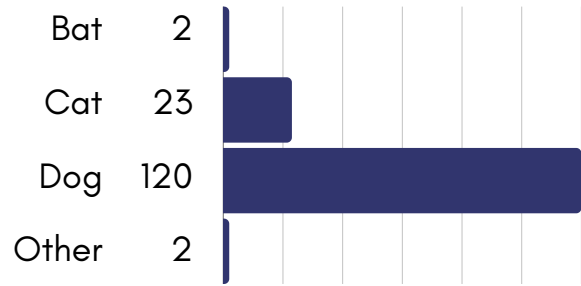
The RCPH Food Safety Training video was viewed 37 times in 2023. 22 certificates were mailed to individuals who completed the training and quiz.

37
views



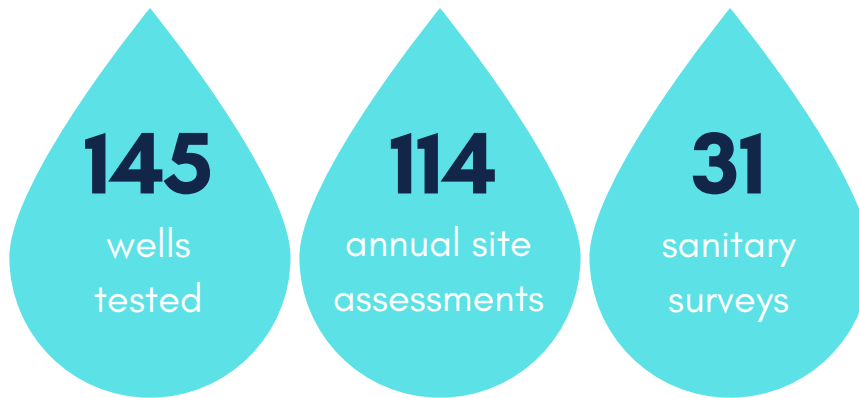
Rabies Exposure Investigations

RCPH continues to investigate potential rabies exposures to ensure the animal is not rabid and the victim has not been exposed to rabies. Each rabies exposure investigations requires a large amount of time to complete. In 2023, RCPH conducted 147 rabies exposure investigations.



DNR Well Water Program

In 2023, RCPH tested 145 wells, performed 114 annual site assessments, and completed 31 sanitary surveys.



Well Water Testing

In 2023, RCPH provided 27 bacteria/nitrate well water test kits to residents.

DNR Childcare Lead-in-Water Testing Program

In 2023, RCPH sampled 12 facilities. 4 of those tests came back with at least 1 high sample. 2 facilities are currently being remediated.

In total, 196 samples were taken and 22 came back with high levels of lead.

Beach Water Monitoring

Beaches monitored in the RCPH jurisdiction include Bohners Lake (Aukes, Leach and Public Beaches), Fischer Park Beach, North Bay Parkway Beach, Quarry Lake Park Beach, and Wind Point Lighthouse Beach.

RCPH posted 4 Caution and 1 Closed sign throughout the 2023 beach season.



Home Visiting

Hello Baby Universal Home Visiting

In 2023, RCPH introduced Hello Baby Racine County, a program that provides a nurse home visit for all parents of newborns in the community.

RCPH developed new marketing materials and a new website (including a virtual resource library) to better serve our community.



283
visits/families
served

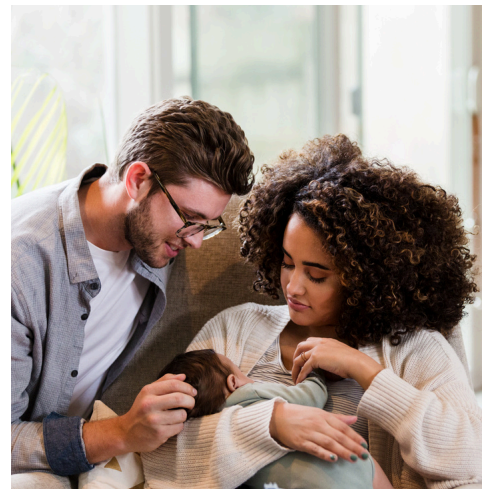
Partnerships with UW-Milwaukee and Walworth County Public Health

- developed new screening, referral, and nurse protocols
- trained nurses on the new protocol, interview techniques, and implementation
- continue to provide training and support as needed

Implementation in neighboring counties provides an opportunity for recruitment of residents who gave birth outside of Racine County.

Healthy Families America (HFA) Model Home Visiting Programs

For the 2022-2023 grant cycle, RCPH provided 1124 home visits for 92 families.



Emergency Preparedness



Emergency Preparedness

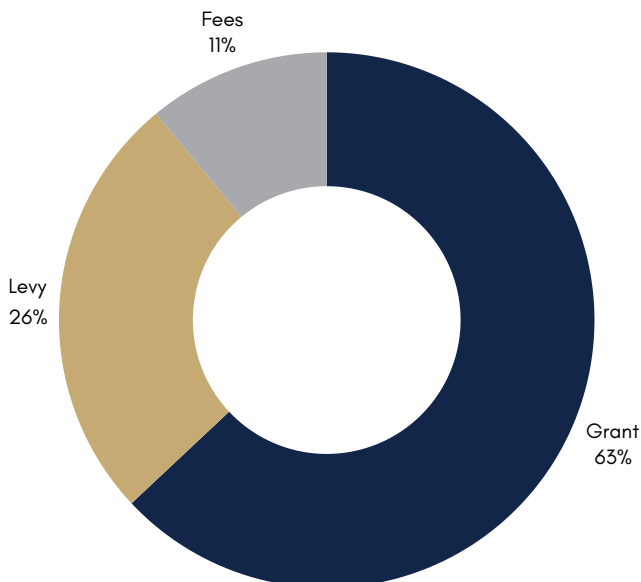
Emergency Preparedness facilitates organizational and community resilience in the face of a wide range of hazards. Health department staff, in cooperation with other county departments and partners, continue to develop emergency response plans and protocols, and identify internal and external resources that can be deployed by the Health Department during a public health or other emergency.

2023 Budget Summary

The 2023 levy contribution was \$10.99 per capita, significantly less than the national average of \$18 per capita for local health departments.

Of note, Wisconsin ranks in the bottom quartile for public health expenditures relative to the rest of the country.

2023 Revenues



2023 Expenditures

