

LICKING COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



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FROM HEALTH COMMISSIONER, CHAD BROWN

The Licking County Health Department (LCHD) had an eventful and successful 2024. One of our major accomplishments was securing our mobile clinic that allows us to serve residents throughout our county. Our staff provided a variety of services using the mobile unit including immunization clinics, sexual health clinics, primary care visits, tick education and prevention, septic system maintenance education, and overdose prevention activities. The mobile clinic was present at a variety of locations including the Hartford Fair, Dawes Arboretum, the Buckeye Valley YMCA, and the Hebron Baby Pantry. We are looking forward to expanding our reach in 2025 and attending more events throughout the county.

We also partnered with the Licking County Commissioners to start a Community Navigator program. The program provides wrap around services for individuals with substance misuse disorders or those who may be at risk of substance misuse disorders. The Navigator assists individuals by helping them find treatment options, primary care visits, and other medical appointments. We are also reducing barriers associated with transportation and healthcare access. LCHD is looking forward to building and expanding this program to serve county residents in need of assistance.

Our staff has also worked to create awareness regarding Lyme Disease, which is caused by a tick bite. Lyme Disease cases have increased over the past several years, and we have worked to increase awareness by educating medical providers and the public. Tick identification drop off locations were placed at parks around the county, and our staff conducted tick surveillance to identify potential “hot spots” for tick activity. Unfortunately, it appears that Lyme Disease is here to stay, and we will do our best to help residents prevent tick bites and avoid the disease.

It’s safe to say that 2024 was a busy and exciting year at LCHD. We implemented new programs and got out on the road to serve our residents. Our goal is to provide high quality customer service in all of our programs, and our staff is a group of dedicated professionals who care deeply about the community they serve. I am proud to work with such an amazing group of people, and I’m looking forward to working as hard as possible to serve Licking County in 2025.

Chad Brown, MPH, REHS
Licking County Health Commissioner

LEADERSHIP TEAM



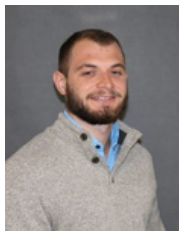
Chad Brown, MPH, REHS
Health Commissioner



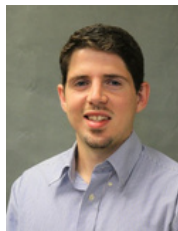
Kari Jones, BSN, MBA, RN
Director of Personal and
Community Health



Todd Kirkpatrick, MS, RD, LD
Director of Maternal and Child
Health



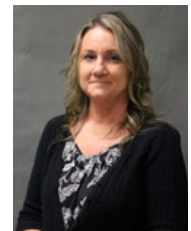
Scott Morris, REHS
Director of Outdoor
Environmental Health



Traven Wood, MS, REHS
Director of Indoor
Environmental Health



Bri Perkins, CHES®
Director of Health
Promotion



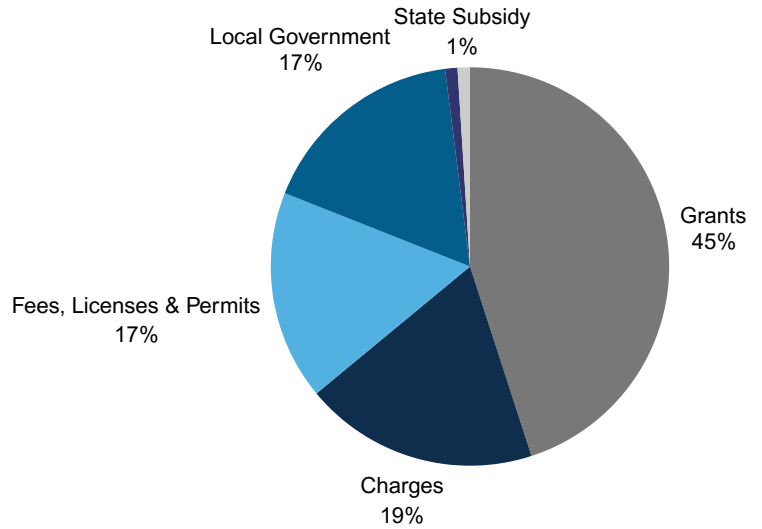
Taunja Dudgeon
Director of Fiscal
Services

FINANCIAL REPORT



Our mobile clinic took to the road in 2024 to bring immunizations, screenings, and education to events across the county.

INCOME BY CATEGORY



VITALS REPORT*

*Individuals with a Licking County Address

Licking County Births

TOTAL BIRTHS	1,884
Mothers Age Under 18	14
Mothers Age 18-20	119
Home Births	46

Top Baby Names of 2024

Girl Names	Boy Names
• Amelia	• Wyatt
• Lainey	• Oliver
• Evelyn	• Grayson
• Eleanor	• Henry
• Paisley	• Theodore

Licking County Deaths

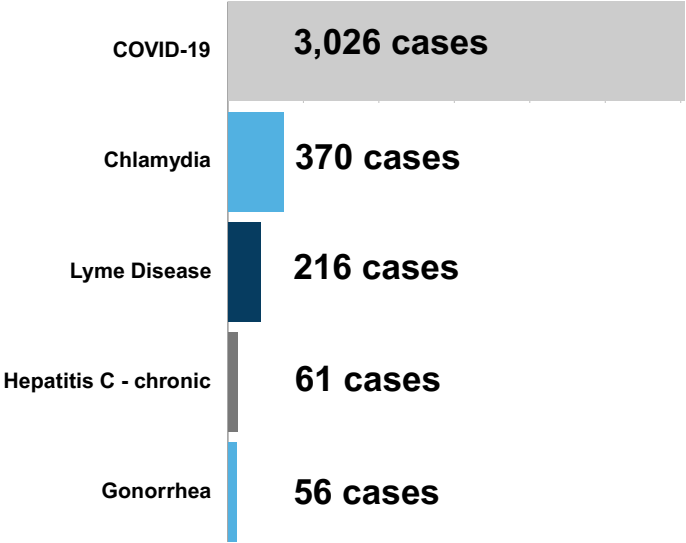
TOTAL Deaths	1,823
Death by Suicide	36
Deaths by Overdose	26
Deaths by Accident	96
Deaths by Homicide	4



2024's Public Health Guardian, Matt Allison: Executive Director: Licking County Transit

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORT

TOP 5 DISEASES IN LICKING COUNTY



	CASES
Flu	1,074
Hospitalized Flu	41
Chlamydia	370
Gonorrhea	56
Hepatitis A	4
Hepatitis B - chronic	42
Hepatitis C - chronic	61

Total Infectious Diseases in 2024 = 5,186

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

Our Maternal and Child Health Division aims to eliminate health disparities, improve birth outcomes, and improve the health status of Licking County's women, infants, children, youth, and families.

BY THE NUMBERS



WIC (Women, Infants, & Children) Average Caseload

- Price Road (LCHD) 1,590
- Johnstown 34
- Buckeye Lake 44
- Pataskala 341

County Total 2,009



1951 Home Base Early Head Start / Head Start Home Visits



\$2,461,715.92 WIC grocery store sales



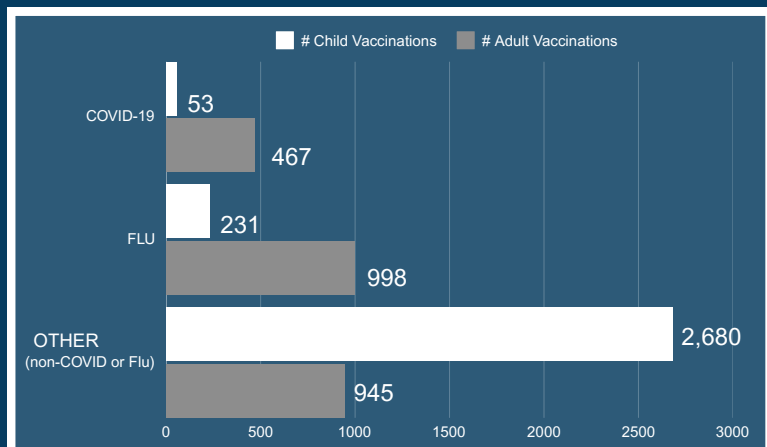
"I am thankful for Head Start and the opportunities it brings for my family, to attend socializations. Socials have not only brought new friends to my kids, but to me as well!"

-The Waites

COMMUNITY & PERSONAL HEALTH - PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Our Community & Personal Health - Public Nursing Division vaccinates children and adults against disease, tracks sources of disease, helps families with children who have complex medical needs, educates teen and first-time moms, staffs the Community Health Clinic, acts as school nurses, provides home health visits, and manages our mobile clinic.

VACCINATIONS BY THE NUMBERS



PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS



The Complex Medical Health (CMH) program links children with special health care needs to a network of quality providers and helps individuals and their families obtain payment for needed services.

LCHD assisted **817** children through this program in 2024.



Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (BCCP) is a statewide, high quality breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic program offered at no cost to eligible women in Ohio.

LCHD assisted **3,332** people through this program in 2024.



As Licking County's designated Tuberculosis (TB) Control Agency, we conduct TB testing for school admission, employment, and disease investigations. We help ensure that infected individuals take the prescribed medication and limit public contact while infected.

LCHD administered **168** TB tests in 2024.



2024's Pink Strides Walk hosted over 200 walkers (that's a record!), cheerleaders from 6 local school districts, 10 sponsors, 12 vendors, donations from 17 local businesses and two local families, and two incredibly special speakers (Christy Smith and Michelle Hanger) that came together to support SASS (Screening & Survivor Support for Breast Cancer in Licking County).

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Our Environmental Health Division investigates health problems and environmental public health hazards and enforces public health laws to protect the community. In 2024, the Environmental Health Division completed **2,344** standard inspections across all programs (Food, Body Art, Pools, and Campgrounds).

BY THE NUMBERS

- 13,709** Mosquitoes trapped
- 10,396** Food and safety violations identified
- 3,254** Food safety inspections completed
- 971** Miles sprayed for mosquitoes
- 411** People received a Food Safety Certification from our Department
- 359** Well permits issued
- 316** Pool/spa inspections
- 221** Septic permits issued
- 127** Lot splits completed



Top: LCHD's Annual Sewage Contractors Educational Workshop.
Bottom: Tick dragging on Licking County trails.



HEALTH PROMOTION

Health Educators promote healthy lifestyles and educate people, young and old, so they can make informed decisions about their health. Health educators present programs and promote healthy behaviors in schools, workplaces, health fairs, and other settings.



Top: LCHD's Child Passenger Safety program completes inspections and distributes car seats.
Bottom: Wearing purple on Drug Overdose Awareness Day to remember loved ones and acknowledge the grief of friends and family.



BY THE NUMBERS

- Our partnership with Uber Health provided **1,275** FREE Uber Health rides to Licking County residents.
- Our Drug Overdose Prevention program distributed **53** Naloxboxes, **1,588** Naloxone kits, and collected **438** pounds of prescription drugs during Drug Take Back Day.
- Our efforts to reduce the rate of youth and adult smoking, vaping, and other tobacco product use through education and system and policy change resulted in **386** students receiving vaping curriculum education and **55** Tobacco and Nicotine Retailer Compliance Checks with an **87.27%** compliance rate.
- Our Child Safety Seat program distributed **239** car seats and completed **58** car seat inspections.