



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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**Butler County  
Health Department**

# 2017 Annual Report

*301 S. Third Street, Hamilton, OH 45011  
(513) 863-1770*

*Web Site: [www.butlercountyohio.org/health](http://www.butlercountyohio.org/health)*

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## What is Public Health?

Public health connects us all.

Overall, public health is concerned with protecting the health of entire populations. These populations can be as small as a local neighborhood, or as large as an entire country or region of the world.

Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, enforcement of laws and regulations, research into disease and injury prevention, and detection and control of infectious diseases.

Public health professionals try to prevent problems from happening or recurring through implementing educational programs, recommending policies, administering services and conducting research. This is in contrast to clinical professionals like doctors and nurses, who focus primarily on treating individuals after they become sick or injured.

Public health also works to limit health disparities. A large part of public health is promoting healthcare equity, quality and accessibility.

CDC Foundation



"This agency is an equal provider of services and an equal employment opportunity employer – Civil Rights Act 1964 (CRA)

## Board of Health



The Butler County Board of Health is the governing body of the Butler County General Health District, which consist of 13 Townships and 9 Cities and Villages. The Board of Health consists of 8 members who are each appointed for a 3 year term.

The Board of Health is the policy making body for the health department and has the authority to adopt rules and regulations according to the law. The Butler County Board of Health meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

### **Board of Health Members, 2017**

Leon Simpson, Chairman  
Molly Emmert, MD  
Nancy Harrison  
Ryan Welsh, PE

Alan J. Burley, DDS, Vice-Chairman  
Stephanie Johnson, RN, BSN  
Stephen Schulte  
John Mihevic

### **Health Commissioner**

Jennifer Bailer, RN, MS

### **Medical Director**

Steven Horn, MD

# District Advisory Council

## Township Trustees

Fairfield	Shannon Hartkemeyer ♦ Susan Berding ♦ Joseph M. McAbee
Hanover	Douglas L. Johnson ♦ Fred J. Stitsinger ♦ Larry Miller
Lemon	Kevin Majors ♦ Joe Routson ♦ Janet K. Majors
Liberty	Christine Matacic ♦ Tom Farrell ♦ Steve Schramm
Madison	Thomas Hall ♦ Alan Daniel ♦ Brian McGuire
Milford	Paul Gillespie ♦ Russell McMillian ♦ Brad Mills
Morgan	Tom Brucker ♦ Darryl D. Huff ♦ Brett Updike
Oxford	Norma Pennock ♦ John Kinne ♦ Gary R. Salmon
Reily	Dennis H. Conrad, Jr. ♦ C. Nicholas Schwab ♦ Tim Miller
Ross	Raymond Wurzelbacher ♦ Thomas Willsey, Jr. ♦ Ellen Yordy
St. Clair	Gary R. Couch ♦ Tom Barnes ♦ Judy Valerio
Wayne	Tim Taylor ♦ Larry Setser ♦ Michael J. F. Truster
West Chester	Mark S. Welch ♦ Lee Wong ♦ George Lang

## Cities & Villages

Village of College Corner	James R. Jackson, Mayor
City of Fairfield	Steven Miller, Mayor
Village of Jacksonburg	Michael W. Sword, Mayor
Village of Millville	Robert Settles, Mayor
City of Monroe	Robert E. Routson, Mayor
Village of New Miami	Robert Lee Henley, Mayor
City of Oxford	Kate Rousmaniere, Mayor
Village of Seven Mile	Vivian M. Gorsuch, Mayor
City of Trenton	Calvin G. Woodrey, Mayor

## County Commissioners

Cindy Carpenter  
T. C. Rogers  
Donald L. Dixon

# Mission / Vision / Values

## Mission Statement

To prevent disease and injury, promote health and wellness, and protect the environment.

## Vision Statement

A healthy and connected community where residents can enjoy optimal physical, emotional, and environmental health.

## Values

**Build** – We work with partners and stakeholders to meet the needs of our community.

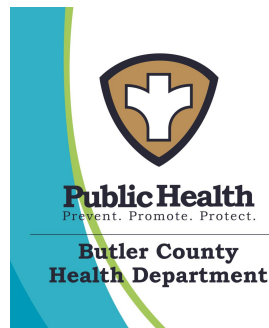
**Unity** – We show support courtesy and understanding for all with whom we interact.

**Teamwork** – We capitalize on our collective differences, strengths, and perspectives.

**Leadership** – We are committed to developing a public health staff that exceeds core competencies and provides outstanding service to the community.

**Excellence** – We set goals and strive to achieve the highest quality of public health service through innovation and demonstration of outcomes.

**Respect** – We respect the diversity of those we serve and value the contributions made by all staff.



## Letter from the Commissioner

Dear Citizens of Butler County,

I am pleased to present the 2017 Annual Report of the Butler County Health Department. 2017 was my first full year as Health Commissioner, after serving 2010-2016 as Director of Nursing. This is a challenging and exciting role where it is my privilege to lead a dedicated staff who work hard every day to ensure and improve the health of all members of our community.

In 2017, the entire staff and board of the Butler County Health Department began an earnest quest to achieve accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), a national organization. Becoming accredited is a new expectation by the Ohio Department of Health of all local health departments by the year 2020.

In working towards accreditation, we developed new Mission, Vision, and Values statements that will serve as the foundation of a new Strategic Plan. We updated our Community Health Assessment with partners from around the county (available on our website: [www.butlercountyohio.org/health](http://www.butlercountyohio.org/health)). In 2018 we will finish our Community Health Improvement Plan to provide a process and benchmarks for achieving better health for all in our county, and we will craft Workforce Development and Quality Improvement Plans.

Each of our departments carried on their usual strong work in 2017 in the areas of environmental health, nursing, maternal child health, accreditation, epidemiology, emergency preparedness, plumbing, administrative support, vital statistics, building support, and fiscal management. Each area's accomplishments are described in this report.

Health Trends in 2017:

The Heroin Epidemic became the Opioid Epidemic in 2017, with overdose deaths continuing due to the addition of synthetic opioids such as fentanyl, carfentanyl, acetylfentanyl, furanylfentanyl, etc. This very serious problem necessitated public health forming new alliances and partnerships across sectors as never before, and we found ourselves working with mental health providers, the coroner's office, prevention programs, first responders and others. In the future, bringing on a blood-borne pathogens prevention program will be a priority as those diseases are soaring in numbers.

Local health departments across the state and nation have become focused on data and we love having and using data to inform and guide our work. In 2017, we added two full-time, Master's level Epidemiologists who assist us in collecting and analyzing all kinds of health-related data. Health planning with hospitals and health departments across Southwest Ohio began in 2017. If you have health data needs, contact us and we will try to assist you!

At the federal level, changes in health insurance and health care were discussed almost daily. Though no major changes were actually implemented in 2017, there surely will be changes from the federal government in 2018. Public Health stands ready to pivot as necessary, and will respond as required. We are looking forward to whatever challenges come our way in 2018.

Jennifer Bailer, RN, MS, Health Commissioner

# Health Department Personnel\*

\*employed at any time in 2017

## Health Commissioner

Jennifer Bailer, RN, MS

## Administrative Staff

Jeffery Agnew, R.S., Director of Environmental Health  
Sue Haines, RN, B.S.N., Director of Nursing and Maternal Child Health  
Rhonda Smith, Chief Fiscal Officer/Office Manager  
Jerry Frederick, Chief Plumbing Inspector  
Dr. Steven Horn, Medical Director/TB Clinician

## Environmental Staff

Nathan Creech, SIT  
Awni Dababneh, RS  
Jennifer Frederickson, RS  
Jodi Gibson, RS  
Bart Kelhoffer, RS  
Mark Knapke, RS  
Katherine Kuhl, Intern  
Kory Neidich, SIT  
Nicole Pennington, SIT  
Jason Soles, RS

## Emergency Response Coordinator

Jake Collins, MPH

## Accreditation Coordinator

Mita Patel, RN, MS

## Building Supervisor

Scott Deaton

## Plumbing Staff

Gary Baldwin  
Gordon Rister  
Mike Schlabach

## Nursing/Epidemiology Staff

Karen Carr, RN,BSN, Epidemiologist  
Sue Glutz, RN  
Mary Beth Grollmus, RN, BSN, MA  
Cindy Price, RN, MS, Director  
Betsy Waldeck, RN  
Robynne Wilson, RN, BSN  
Claire Wright, RN, BSN  
Jonathan Yang, MPH, MS, Epidemiologist

## Maternal Child Health Staff

Marie Augustin, BA, C-CHW  
Sonia Fongum, C-CHW  
Latoiua Foster, BA, C-CHW  
Natalie Jones, BA, C-CHW  
Michelle Tubbs, C-CHW  
Katrina Wilson, MS  
Goldie Wontumi, MD, MPH  
Kathryn Yang, CNM, MPH  
Andrew Schwartz, MPH, Epidemiologist  
(Contracted)

## Office Staff

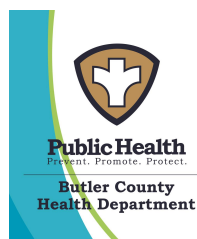
Annette Bellman  
Tina Combs  
Kim Geisler  
Nikki Girdler  
Susan McCord  
Audrey Morris  
Kathy Ripley  
Kim Smith

# Budget & Finance

## 2017

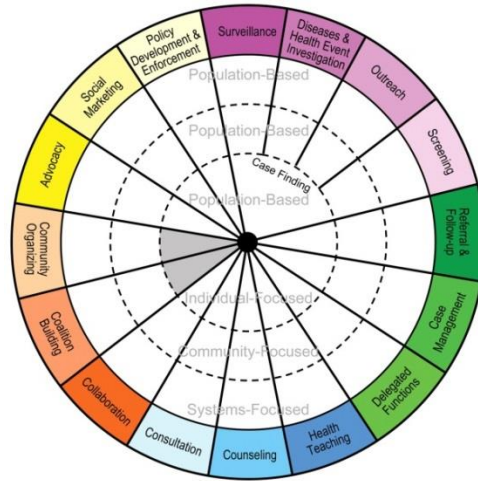
### All Butler County Board of Health Funds

REVENUE		EXPENDITURES	
2016 Balance	1,777,276.85	Salaries	1,325,862.17
Taxation	135,000.00	PERS	182,968.81
Grants	947,708.22	Workers Compensation	29,779.31
Fees & Miscellaneous	1,084,053.99	Medicare	27,041.31
State Subsidy	48,256.75	Group Insurance	255,718.35
Food Service	650,141.00	Supplies	176,592.10
Pool Licenses	64,621.49	Travel & Expenses	24,607.01
Recreational Vehicle/Camp Licenses	520.57	Contractual Services	549,167.32
Household Sewage Treatment Systems	182,190.64	Equipment	79,229.50
		Other - Miscellaneous	4,557.08
		State Portion	241,826.38
		Contingency	1,992,420.17
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>4,889,769.51</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>4,889,769.51</b>





# Nursing and Maternal Child Health Services Division



## Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic:

Butler County Health Department works to identify people who have active TB and those who have been in contact with TB patients to determine whether they have the infection. Through Directly Observed Therapy (DOT), our nurses observe patients taking their medication daily to ensure compliance. Our Medical Director Dr. Steven Horn oversees and consults on all cases.

Number Active TB Cases by year	
2013	2
2014	3
2015	3
2016	6
2017	8

## School Health Consultation and Education:

Butler County Health Department partners with schools and medical providers throughout the county to assist in immunization compliance and communicable diseases monitoring. Our health department nurses conducted 3-4 educational programs monthly to school nurses and staff as part of a public health immunization education grant.

**In 2017, 42 visits were made by our nurses to educate school nurses about vaccines.**

## Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention:

The Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention program was created to prevent babies of Hepatitis B-positive mothers from contracting Hepatitis B virus from their mothers at birth. The local health department follows all babies born to Hepatitis B positive moms to help ensure they get their vaccinations and grow up healthy. **In 2017, our nurses ensured the on-time vaccination of 10 babies. These vaccinations prevented 6 infants from contracting Hepatitis, 4 more will complete their vaccines in 2018.**

## HIV and Hepatitis C Testing and Education:

On the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. free HIV and Hep C testing and education was offered via a mobile van from Caracole.

**In 2017, 49 persons were tested for HIV (no positives) and 28 persons were tested for Hep C (11 positives) via the mobile van. In Butler County overall, 28 new cases of HIV were reported. 1215 condoms were handed out to prevent STDs.**

## Immunization Clinics:

On Mondays and Wednesdays by appointment, the health department offers immunizations for infants, children and adults. Travel vaccines are also available by appointment.

**In 2017, our nurses held 89 clinics for infants and children and 90 clinics for adults as well as 6 clinics countywide for influenza vaccines. 1,971 immunizations were administered for infants and children and 758 travel and influenza vaccines were given to adults throughout the county.**



## Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided With Naloxone):

Project DAWN is a community-based overdose education and naloxone (Narcan) distribution program. Naloxone is given to reverse the effects of opioids in order to prevent overdose death.



**In 2017, 267 Project DAWN kits were distributed throughout the county to prevent deaths from opioid overdoses. 713 doses of Narcan were given to first responders.**

## Moms and Babies First Program

Infant mortality is the death of a live born baby before his/her first birthday. Butler County as it is one of the top ten urban counties in the state of Ohio for high infant mortality rates. Our hot spots for infant deaths and poor birth outcomes are in Fairfield, Hamilton, Middletown, Liberty Township and West Chester Township, so services are targeted to those areas. Due to the high rates of infant mortality in the African American community, the Moms and Babies First program targets high-risk, low-income African American pregnant women.

**Program Description:** Moms and Babies First is a family centered home visiting program for eligible African American pregnant women in Butler County.

Our program helps women obtain the prenatal care and other services they need to deliver healthy babies who survive and thrive to their first birthdays... and beyond.

Our goal is to achieve optimal pregnancy outcomes and help ensure babies thrive throughout the first year of life by: 1) decreasing African American maternal and infant mortality, 2) improving African American maternal, infant, and family health, and 3) reducing health disparities in the African American community..

**Service Provided:** Our Certified Community Health Workers (C-CHW) make scheduled home visits that begin during pregnancy and continue until the child reaches age one. C-CHWs focus on success in health education and self-sufficiency using a standardized curriculum.

We address any barriers that are financial, geographic, cultural and/or infrastructural.

We identify underlying medical conditions, and understand how social support and environment factors (stress and race) contribute to poor birth outcomes.

We utilize nursing and /physician support as needed.

**Languages:** We provide services to pregnant women in any language using interpreter services, and have C-CHWs who speak English and French.

**Moms and Babies First in 2017:**  
**124 families served**  
**69 babies born**  
**Only 5 babies born premature/low birth weight**

For more information about the program or to make a referral, call the Moms and Babies First Program at 513-887-5249

# Butler County Partnership to Reduce Infant Mortality



A program of the Butler County Health Department and additional community partners

**Vision:** To inspire, change and empower Butler County families so that all babies reach their first birthdays... and beyond!

**Background:** Infant Mortality is the death of a live-born baby before his/her first birthday. The Infant Mortality Rate is a leading indicator of the overall health of a community. The Infant Mortality rate is calculated as the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births per year. Butler County is one of 10 urban Ohio counties with the highest infant mortality rates. Additionally, in Butler County black infants are dying at more than twice the rate of white infants. The Butler County Health Department is working to improve birth outcomes for all and to reduce the racial gap in infant death. Our local infant mortality coalition, Butler County Partnership to Reduce Infant Mortality, (BC PRIM) was formed in 2013 with the support of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and CityMatch. Since it was formed, BC PRIM has improved understanding of the causes of infant mortality in our community and has developed programs to support and improve the health and wellbeing of our women and infants.

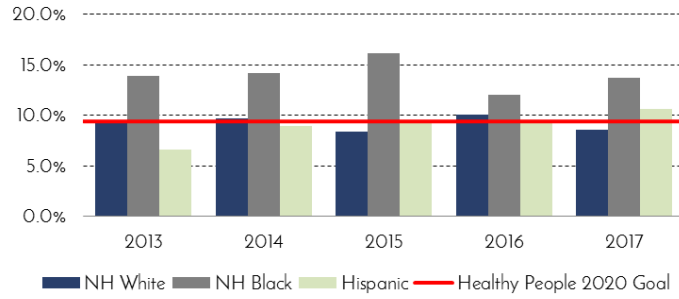
## **BC PRIM interventions include:**

- 2-1-1 BabyLink a United Way collaboration, 24-7 telephone referral service
- Safe Sleep Campaign with distribution of free Pack N Plays to qualifying families
- Smoking Cessation counseling and free diapers for pregnant women and partners
- CenteringPregnancy (group prenatal care with free transportation and childcare)
- Breastfeeding Support Groups
- Celebrate Fatherhood
- Faith-based programs (NEST & Families First)
- On demand transportation for services that are not covered by Medicaid

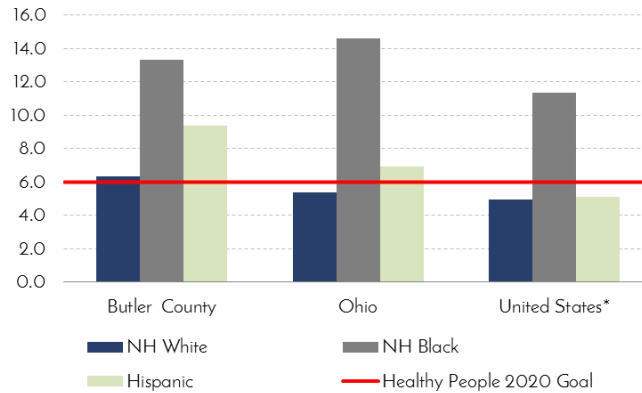
## **Butler County Residents can make a difference!**

If you are pregnant, enroll in our programs and encourage other pregnant women to enroll with you. If there is a baby in your family under one year of age reach out for services for infants. Community members can promote infant vitality by learning and sharing information about the resources available to pregnant women and infants in our county. Community facilities can become distribution sites for educational materials that support PRIM projects. Residents can volunteer at one of our events or volunteer with our community partners.

## Butler County Preterm Birth Rate 2013-2017 by Race

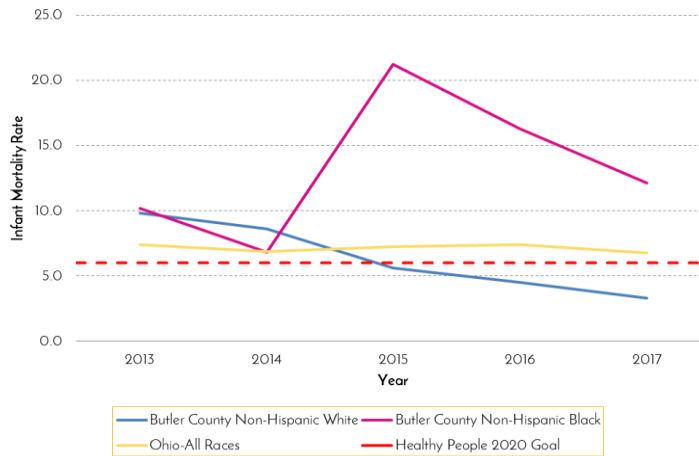


## Butler County, Ohio, US Infant Mortality Rate 2013-2017 by Race



\*US data only available through 2015

## Butler County Infant Mortality Rate 2013-2017 by Race



In 2017, the infant mortality rate decreased for both Black and White individuals in Butler County. Though this is good news, there is still work to do. The infant mortality rate for non-Hispanic black babies in Butler County was 12.1 per 1000 births, over 3 times higher than the non-Hispanic white rate of 3.3 per 1000. The Butler County white infant mortality rate was less than the Ohio overall rate, and less than the Healthy People 2020 Goal for the nation.

Contact us for more information about how you can get involved with protecting our greatest resource, our future. <http://www.butlercountyohio.org/health/> (513) 887-5251

## Fetal and Infant Mortality Review

The Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) is a community-based, action-oriented process to improve service systems and resources for women, infants and families. The Butler County Health Department conducts the FIMR program to learn about ways to reduce fetal and infant mortality. The goal of the program is to bring different members of the community together and examine the social, economic, cultural, safety, and health systems factors associated with fetal infant mortality. Our overall goal is to decrease the number of fetal and infant deaths in our community. We listen to the families who have lost a baby to hear the story of their baby's death. This is a chance for the family to describe their experiences in their own words and to learn more about the pregnancy, the loss of the child, the services the family received, and the services that were not available. Additional information is also collected from a variety of sources, such as medical records. A case summary is then created with all information de-identified. This summary is presented to a Case Review Team, who will identify barriers to care and make recommendations for system changes. These findings are then reported to a Community Action Team who will contribute a perspective on how best to implement the identified changes in community systems.

### Recent Recommendations from Case Review Team

- Preventing unintended pregnancies by providing contraception education (with an emphasis on LARC) and condom availability in the community.
- Need for preconception planning including obesity management and promoting folic acid awareness among women of reproductive age, with an awareness of targeting youth organizations.
- Educating women and their support system about the signs of preterm labor, importance of fetal kick counts, and other symptoms that should be reported immediately to their provider.
- Increase mental health referrals and implement stress reduction strategies/coping skills. According to the March of Dimes, stress during pregnancy can increase the chances of having a premature baby (born before 37 weeks of pregnancy) or a low-birth weight baby (weighing less than 5 ½ pounds), which puts these babies at an increased risk for health problems.
- Increase the screening, identification, and treatment of pregnant women at risk for preterm birth that would benefit from progesterone.
- Interventions needed to improve early and ongoing prenatal care and to have a prenatal support team in place to achieve healthy pregnancies for women at risk to ensure healthy newborns.
- Promoting Butler County's Moms and Babies First program to OB providers. Moms and Babies First is an outreach program for African American pregnant women where certified community health workers make home visits from pregnancy until the child reaches age 2.

# Communicable Disease Report

By: Jonathan Yang, MPH MS, Epidemiologist  
(Reporting for Butler County, Hamilton City, & Middletown City)

**KEY:** ( \*\*\* = "Disease of Higher Interest" Criteria: Sharp rise from previous years, higher than state/national average rates, etc.)

## ❖ Food-Borne

- **40 cases** of Campylobacteriosis
- **9 cases** of Shiga Toxin-Producing E. Coli
- **1 case** of Hepatitis A
- **1 case** of Listeriosis
- **40 cases** of Salmonellosis
- **72 cases** of Shigellosis \*\*\*
  - **Shigellosis in Butler County by Year (# of cases):**
    - 2013 (2), 2014 (3), 2015 (4), 2016 (66), 2017 (72)
  - NOTE: Numbers may drastically fluctuate year-to-year based on varying factors such as cleanliness habits of individuals or institutions/restaurants.

## ❖ Water-Borne

- **9 cases** of Cryptosporidiosis
- **8 cases** of Giardiasis
- **8 cases** of Legionellosis

## ❖ Sexually-Transmitted

- **1400 cases** of Chlamydia \*\*\*
- **530 cases** of Gonorrhea \*\*\*
- **23 cases** of Syphilis \*\*\*
- 🚦 Within the state of Ohio (and also within Butler County), increased rates of STDs are being observed from year to year.
  - **Chlamydia in Ohio (rates per 100,000):**
    - 2012 (461.9), 2013 (460.7), 2014 (468.5), 2015 (490.0), 2016 (521.6) - Source: Ohio Department of Health

## ❖ Vector-Borne

- **3 cases** of Lyme Disease
- **2 cases** of Malaria
- **1 case** of West Nile Virus

## ❖ Other Illnesses

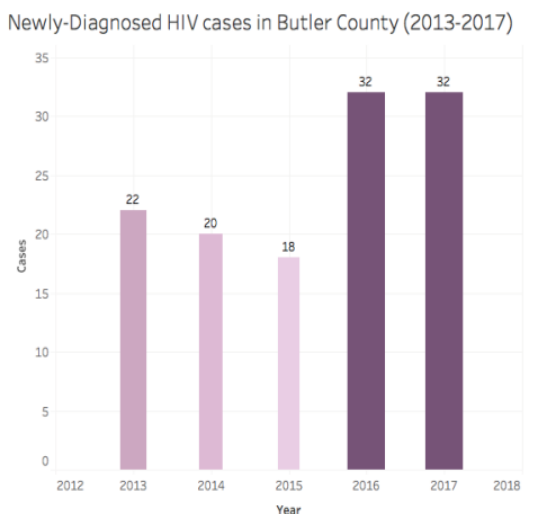
- **1 case** of Coccidioidomycosis
- **1 case** of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease
- **12 cases** of Hepatitis B
- **1 case** of Group B Strep

Table 1. Diseases and Counts	
Communicable Diseases:	Count:
Campylobacteriosis - <b>FOOD</b>	40
Chlamydia - <b>STD</b>	1400
Coccidioidomycosis - <b>OTHER</b>	1
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Dz - <b>OTHER</b>	1
Cryptosporidiosis - <b>WATER</b>	9
E. Coli Shiga Toxin - <b>FOOD</b>	9
Giardiasis - <b>WATER</b>	8
Gonorrhea - <b>STD</b>	530
Haemophilus Influenzae - <b>RESP</b>	5
Hepatitis A - <b>FOOD</b>	1
Hepatitis B - <b>OTHER</b>	12
Hepatitis C, Acu/Chr - <b>INJ</b>	803
HIV - <b>INJ</b>	28
Influenza hospitalization - <b>RESP</b>	277
Legionellosis - <b>WATER</b>	8
Listeriosis - <b>FOOD</b>	1
Lyme Disease - <b>VECTOR</b>	3
Malaria - <b>VECTOR</b>	2
Measles - <b>RESP</b>	5
Meningitis, bacterial - <b>RESP</b>	10
Mumps - <b>RESP</b>	2
Pertussis - <b>RESP</b>	25
Salmonellosis - <b>FOOD</b>	40
Shigellosis - <b>FOOD</b>	72
Strep, Group A - <b>RESP</b>	31
Strep, Group B - <b>OTHER</b>	1
Strep pneumoniae - <b>RESP</b>	45
Syphilis, all stages - <b>STD</b>	23
Tuberculosis - <b>RESP</b>	9
Varicella - <b>RESP</b>	11
West Nile Virus - <b>VECTOR</b>	1
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>3433</b>

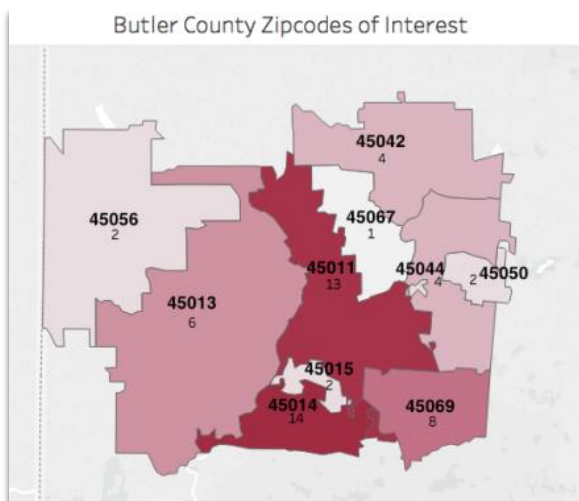
## ❖ Injection Drug-Associated

- **803 cases** of Hepatitis C, Acute or Chronic \*\*\*
  - **Butler County** Hepatitis C rate per 100,000 (2016): **225.3**
  - **State of Ohio** Hepatitis C rate per 100,000 (2016): **205.3**
  - In 2016, Butler County had a **higher rate of individuals with Hepatitis C infections** than in the rest of Ohio.
  - Between **Butler County, Hamilton City, and Middletown City**, there has been as much as a **355.1% increase** in yearly Hepatitis C diagnoses observed since 2002 (15 years ago).
- **28 cases** of HIV \*\*\*
  - Butler County experienced as much as a **77.8% increase** in newly-diagnosed HIV cases within the past 5 years.
  - In Butler County, **Young Adults** and **Adults** are at the highest risk of contracting HIV, with a strong concentration in the **“millennial” subgroup (ages 18-34)**.
  - Roughly **3 in 4** HIV cases from Butler County were **Male**.

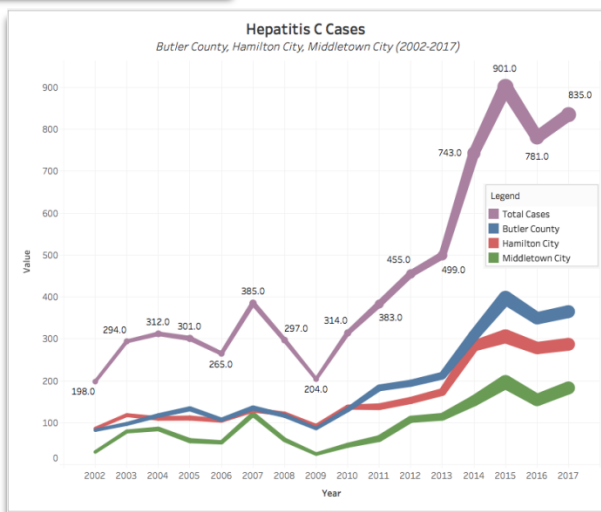
## 🗺️ High-Interest Areas for new HIV cases (Butler Co. in past 2 years [2016-2017])



**Figure 1.1** Butler Co. Newly-Diagnosed HIV Cases by



**Figure 1.2** Butler Co. HIV High Interest Areas (2016-2017)



**Figure 2** New Hepatitis C Case Diagnoses within Butler County, Hamilton City, & Middletown City (2002-2017)





## Environmental Division

Environmental health is the science and practice of preventing human injury and illness and promoting well-being.

**Food Program:** Food program inspections are very comprehensive. They involve plan review and inspections of: Food Service Operations (restaurants), Retail Food Establishments (grocery stores), Mobile Units, Temporary Food Service Operations, Micro Markets, and Vending Machine locations.

<b>Food Service Operations</b>	<b>Licenses Issued - 853 / Inspections – 3,052</b>
<b>Retail Food Establishments</b>	<b>Licenses Issued – 323 / Inspections – 699</b>
<b>Food Mobile</b>	<b>Licenses Issued – 51 / Inspections – 101</b>
<b>Food Temporary</b>	<b>Licenses Issued – 206 / Inspections – 199</b>
<b>Vending Operations</b>	<b>Licenses Issued 128 / Inspections – 97</b>

Sanitarians inspect facilities to determine that operations are following requirements of the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code. Sanitarians scrutinize operations in regards to employee health, personal cleanliness, approved food source, the destruction of organisms and the limitation of their growth. The facility is checked to ensure maintenance of the premise, equipment and utensil repair, operation, cleanliness and sanitation.

Sanitarians, along with the epidemiologists, investigate foodborne illness and complaints in efforts to ensure food safety and to protect public health. Along with addressing public questions or concerns regarding food safety, the Health Department offers level one food safety classes each month.

**Household Sewage Treatment System Program:** Sanitarians review soil reports, sewage system designs and site reviews for the placement of household sewage treatment systems (H.S.T.S.) to serve dwellings. Approved (H.S.T.S.) site reviews are used to legitimize the issuance of installation permits.

<b>New Installation Permits Issued</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>New Installation Inspections</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Alteration Permits Issued</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Alteration Inspections</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Aerobic Systems Licensed</b>	<b>1,612</b>
<b>Aerobic Systems Inspected</b>	<b>1,241</b>
<b>Site Reviews</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Soil Evaluations</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Designs</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Private Sewage Surveys</b>	<b>9</b>

**Operation and Maintenance Program:** The Butler County Health Department has begun locating and evaluating all household sewage treatment systems as required

under O.R.C. 3718.02. The program began with a comprehensive review of sewage nuisances and stream contamination data.

There are about 13,500 households operating an HSTS in the county. Inspections are comprised of a review of department information, historical codes, and an on-site inspection of the system. This process consists of locating the system, the age, and a topographic evaluation to determine the nuisance free operation of all household sewage treatment systems located in Butler County.

**Household Sewage Replacement and Repair Program:** The Butler County Health Department was awarded a \$300,000 grant from the Ohio EPA's WPCLF to aid homeowners with failing household sewage treatment systems. This grant provides financial aid to assist homeowners in the payment of Soil Scientists, the creation of system designs and for the installation of new systems.

This grant targets low-income households that otherwise would not be able to afford the high costs associated with new systems. The Butler County Health Department is aiding households that are generating public health nuisances caused by failed systems.

**Private Water Systems:** Private water systems are regulated by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and administered by the Health Department under Sections 3701.344 to 3701.347 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and Chapter 3701-28 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC).

Private water systems are wells, springs, cisterns, hauled water storage tanks and ponds. Prior to placement an application and site plan must be submitted by the installer for health department review and approval.

<b>New Installation Permits Issued</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>New Installation Inspections</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Alteration Permit Issued</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Alteration Inspections</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Well Sealing</b>	<b>3</b>

**Rabies Surveillance:** Sanitarians are actively involved with quarantining of domestic animals (dogs, cats & ferrets) when they are reported to have bitten or scratched humans. Captured wild animals are euthanized and laboratory tested for the rabies virus. People are exposed to rabies when they are bitten by an infected animal, or less commonly, when saliva from an infected animal gets into an open wound or onto a mucous membrane.

A series of post-exposure rabies immunizations can be given to animal bite victims when the biting animal cannot be quarantined or tested.

<b>Animals Bite Investigations – 366</b>
<b>Rabies Laboratory Specimens Submitted – 27</b>
<b>Positive Rabies Results – 0</b>

**New Housing:** Sanitarians review the development of new subdivisions, the re-platting of existing subdivisions, or the splitting of land for new home sites.

Developers must demonstrate the availability of sanitary sewers, or that appropriate soils and land space is accessible for the placement of on-site sewage treatment systems. Developers must also demonstrate that potable water is available through use of a public water source or the development of a private water system.

<b>Total New Family Lots</b>	<b>516</b>
<b>Total New Commercial Lots</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total New Multi-Family Residential Lots</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Replats</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Final Replats</b>	<b>22</b>

**Swimming Pools and Spas:** In efforts to prevent recreational water illnesses (RWI) and to prevent bather injuries, sanitarians inspect public pools for safety and sanitation.

RWIs are caused by germs and chemicals found in the water we swim in. They are spread by swallowing, breathing in mists or aerosols, or having contact with contaminated water. Any person operating a public swimming pool is responsible for maintaining the pool in good repair and ensuring that the pool area is safe, clean, and in a sanitary condition.

**Swimming Pool Sites - 127 ♦ Licenses Issued - 198 ♦ Inspections - 590**

**Schools:** Ohio Revised Code 3707.26 requires the Health Department to inspect semiannually the sanitary conditions of all schools and school buildings within its jurisdiction. Along with school sanitary conditions, sanitarians conduct comprehensive school environmental safety inspections.

**Number of Schools – 60 ♦ Number of Inspections - 122**

Students who are educated in buildings with fewer health and safety concerns tend to excel compared to those students who are educated in buildings where a lack of maintenance has allowed the school building to deteriorate.

**Camps:** Sanitarians inspect licensed campgrounds to ensure that the campgrounds, buildings, sites, and facilities are being maintained in a clean and sanitary manner in accordance with O.A.C. 3701-26.

**Camp Licenses Issued – 2 ♦ Inspections – 2**

Sanitarians ensure park operators are providing residences with a water supply from an approved source, that all sewerage systems are maintained in a safe and sanitary manner that will not create a health hazard, and that all safety requirements are being maintained.

**Nuisance Abatement:** A public health nuisance means any condition which is injurious or potentially injurious to the health and safety of the public. Sanitarians investigate nuisance complaints to determine legitimacy. Appropriate enforcement is issued to abate public health nuisances. Public health nuisances may in regards to household garbage and refuse, housing issues, food program complaints, animal issues, commercial property and insect and rodent control.

**Mosquito Control:** Through a mosquito control grant obtained through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency; the Health Department was able to set out two types of mosquito collection traps in six locations throughout Butler County for mosquito surveillance and testing. Billboards were rented to post messages reminding people to check their properties for water holding containers and dump containers to destroy mosquito larvae.

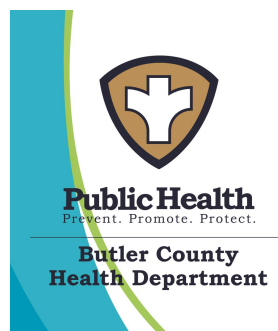
Additionally, the Health Department distributed 5,000+ mosquito dunks to townships, villages and municipalities for placement in stagnant bodies of water to kill larvae. The Health Department also partnered up with the Butler County Recycling and Solid Waste District on a tire collection event, to eliminate sources for mosquito breeding.

**Smoking:** Environmental staff oversee Administrative Rules for ORC 3794 the “smoke-free workplace act”. Sanitarians follow enforcement procedures through investigations and the notifications to proprietors reminding them of their responsibilities to prevent smoking within their businesses. Notifications clarify the posting requirements for signs, outline due process for proprietors, as well as individual and state fines and penalties for violations.

**Number of Complaints – 70 ♦ Actions Taken – 33**

**Miscellaneous Inspections / Reviews:** Sanitarians also inspect for cleanliness, sanitation, and safety of Jails and Tattoo Parlors.

**Jail Inspections – 5 ♦ Tattoo Parlor Inspections - 23**



# Plumbing Division

Our Plumbing Department strives to maintain the safety of the community by ensuring all plumbing, new construction and remodels, are in compliance with the Ohio State Plumbing Code. 2017 brought in many new commercial businesses, with an increase of 702 inspections. We hope to continue this trend in 2018.

Chief Plumbing Inspector is certified to inspect medical gas installations. This certification allows him to inspect hospitals and other facilities with medical gases. We hope to add an additional certified medical gas inspector to our department, with the addition of our new full time plumbing inspector.

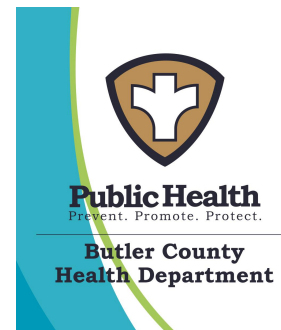


## Registered Licensed Professionals

Master Plumbers	346
Journeymen	108
HSTS Installers	30
Septage Haulers	18
Service Providers	29

## Total Inspections

Rough Plumbing Inspections	2,078
Final Plumbing Inspections	2,190
Water Line Inspections	572
Sewer Line Inspections	452
Medical Gas Inspections	28
Total Inspections	5,320



# Vital Statistics

## 2017

### Births

Males.....	1428
Females.....	1381
TOTAL.....	2809

### Deaths

Males.....	812
Females.....	827
TOTAL.....	1639

### Age of Mothers

13 – 19 years.....	152
20 – 30 years.....	1630
31 – 40 years.....	995
Over 40 years.....	32

### Age at Death

Under 1 month.....	24
1 month – 1 year.....	2
1 – 4 years.....	0
5 – 9 years.....	3
10 – 19 years.....	10
20 – 29 years.....	46
30 – 39 years.....	53
40 – 49 years.....	64
50 – 59 years.....	120
60 – 69 years.....	264
70 – 79 years.....	329
80 – 89 years.....	478
90 & over.....	246

### Unwed Mothers

13 – 19 years.....	136
20 – 30 years.....	714
31 – 40 years.....	194
Over 40 years.....	6

### Causes of Death

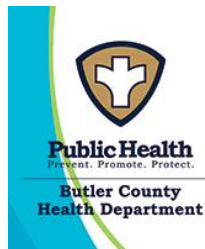
Undetermined.....	4
Accidents.....	111
Suicides.....	29
Homicides.....	5
Cardiovascular.....	494
Cancer.....	228
Respiratory.....	315
All Other.....	450
Pending.....	3

### Place of Birth

McCullough-Hyde.....	385
Mercy Fairfield.....	1502
Home Birth / ER.....	17
West Chester Hospital.....	905

### Residence of Mothers

Butler County.....	1562
Non-County.....	1247



# Emergency Preparedness

## Programs and Services:

- Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)
- City Readiness Initiative (CRI)
- Tri-State Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)
- Emergency Operations Coordination (Emergency Support Function #8)
- Medical Counter Measures
- Strategic National Stockpile
- Information Sharing and Crisis Communication
- Community Preparedness and Recovery
- Epidemiological Investigation
- Mass Care
- Hazard Mitigation
- Mass Casualty planning

## Activities:

The Butler County Health Department staff participated in a regional Mass Fatality exercise on March 30, 2017. BCHD collaborated with the City of Hamilton Health Department, Middletown City Health Department, the Coroner's Office and the Emergency Management Agency to test and improve the County's preparedness for a mass casualty scenario.



The Emergency Response Coordinator participated in an Alternative Care Center (ACC) exercise on May 19, 2017. In traumatic, large-scale events, hospitals are often overwhelmed with patients or are rendered inoperative. ACCs are designed to provide shelter, or to increase surge capacity in the case of a crisis in the region. BCHD has a local Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) unit, which can deploy volunteers to assist in the setup of an ACC.





**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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**Butler County  
Health Department**

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