

JEFFERSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT

COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card

Please keep this record card, which includes medical information about the vaccines you have received.

Last Name: <u>John</u>		First Name: <u>Smith</u>	
Date of Birth: <u>10/23/1952</u>		Sex: <u>M</u>	
Vaccine:	Name/Manufacturer	Lot Number	Date
1st DOSE COVID-19	<u>Moderna</u>	<u>5-689</u>	<u>01/19/2021</u>
2nd DOSE COVID-19	<u>Moderna</u>	<u>5-689</u>	<u>05/31/2021</u>

2021





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Date of Birth <i>10/24/1952</i>		Sex <i>M</i>	
Vaccine	Name/Manufacturer	Lot Number	Date
1st DOSE COVID-19	<i>Moderna-2</i>	<i>657-899</i>	<i>08, 24, 2021</i>
2nd DOSE COVID-19	<i>Moderna-2</i>	<i>657-899</i>	<i>09, 30, 2021</i>



Jefferson County Board of Health January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021



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A Message from the Health Officer

Jefferson County entered into 2021 and the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic with optimism. The development and approval of COVID-19 vaccines in late 2020 and early 2021 brought the opportunity for many Jefferson County residents to be protected against infection, and especially against the most severe consequences of COVID-19 infection. The Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) launched a community-wide COVID-19 vaccination campaign on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 18, 2021. More than 150 JCDH employees volunteered to work on a holiday and administered COVID-19 vaccinations to over 1,000 elderly county residents. The enthusiastic participation of JCDH employees and the relief seen on the faces of vaccine recipients and their families that day was an inspirational reminder of why we

serve in public health. JCDH continued to provide COVID-19 vaccination throughout 2021, with the peak of the COVID-19 vaccinations occurring between February and April 2021.

As vaccination efforts became more widely established, and the number of daily COVID-19 cases began to go down in the spring, a decision was made to demobilize the Jefferson County Unified Command COVID-19 emergency response on May 17, 2021. Despite the initial reduction in new cases in late spring, JCDH maintained internal Incident Command for COVID-19 response and continued providing COVID-19 vaccinations, performing case and contact tracing, communicating with the public and the media about vaccine safety and effectiveness, and providing guidance on strategies for safely returning to normal life. These actions continued during the surge in COVID-19 cases from the Delta variant during July through September and the beginning of the Omicron surge in December.



Vaccination Clinic at Blazer Village

While response to the COVID-19 pandemic remained a focus of JCDH's work during 2021, additional public health initiatives were initiated or advanced. Vaccination of individuals at high risk for Hepatitis A continued to address the ongoing outbreak of this disease. Extra measures were taken to reduce the potential impact of influenza on Jefferson County residents by fulfilling a contract to provide community-wide influenza testing through April 30, 2021 and a Board of Health resolution allowing distribution of antivirals for treatment, if needed.

In February 2021, the Jefferson County Board of Health passed a resolution declaring "Racism as a Public Health Problem." This resolution ensures that JCDH staff receive training on health equity principles and celebrates JCDH's ongoing work to improve health equity in Jefferson County. With pass-through funding received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, JCDH received a multi-million dollar health

disparities grant from the Alabama Department of Public Health to obtain consultation and staff to establish the JCDH Office of Health Equity.

Drug overdose response remained a public health priority in 2021. JCDH received funding from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and other grant monies to implement a robust and near real-time public health response to drug overdoses. In recognition of its innovative work, JCDH received NACCHO's Innovative Practice Gold Award. Reducing gun violence, another 2021 public health priority, has been advanced with community partners through the exploration and design of a hospital-based violence intervention program (HVIP). The HVIP, expected to launch in 2022, aims to reduce retaliatory crime, increase community safety, and improve the life course for survivors of gun violence by addressing underlying factors contributing to homicide and other gun-related injuries, two of Jefferson County's leading causes of death.



Other notable actions included the emergency response to the January 25, 2021 tornado in Fultondale and changes in Title V air pollution permit fees to maintain JCDH's air pollution control work.

Throughout 2021, JCDH demonstrated resilience in its pandemic response and commitment to prevent disease, assure access to quality health care, promote a healthy lifestyle and environment, and protect Jefferson County residents against public health threats.



Mark E. Wilson, MD
Health Officer

2021 COVID-19 Incident Timeline

2021 began with a surge of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, but also with the hope offered by the emergency use authorization (EUA) of two new COVID-19 vaccines in December 2020. These were the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, authorized for individuals age 16 and older, and the Moderna vaccine for individuals age 18 and over. Both of these were mRNA vaccines requiring ultracold storage, which was

initially available at only a few local hospitals. With limited allocation of these vaccines and the need for specialized vaccine storage, JCDH utilized the Alabama COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Plan developed by the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and collaborated with the Jefferson County Healthcare Coalition (HCC) to help ensure equitable vaccine distribution to persons at highest risk of exposure, hospitalization, and death due to SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) infection. Through Jefferson County Unified Command, targeted engagement in communities with vaccine hesitancy and a higher risk of COVID-19 complications was started.



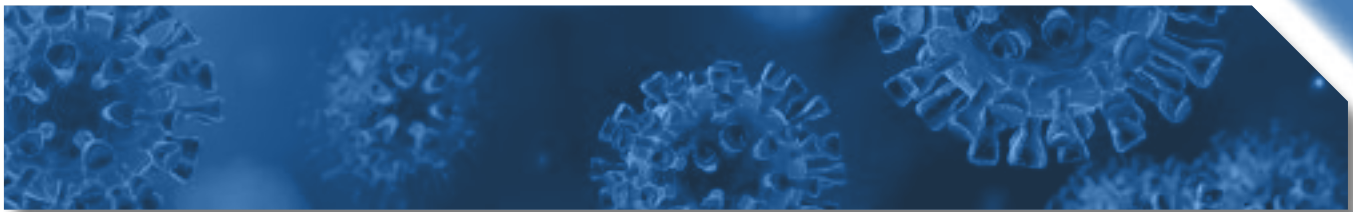
COVID-19 community outreach

January 2021

In early January 2021, JCDH began vaccinating hospital workers, healthcare employees, and others considered at Very High-Risk and High-Risk of COVID-19 exposure. The Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and JCDH launched a Vaccine Hotline and an Internet-based Vaccine Self-Registration Form for vaccine preregistration by individuals eligible for vaccination within each allocation phase. Weeks later, JCDH and partner vaccine providers began vaccinating persons age 75 years and older in coordination with the EMA and HCC.

February 2021

By February 2021, new COVID-19 cases and the case positivity rate were declining. Jefferson County's first case of the Alpha variant of SARS-CoV-2 was detected. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its guidance regarding quarantine for fully vaccinated persons exposed to COVID-19. The Janssen COVID-19 vaccine was granted EUA, and the Beta variant was detected in Alabama by the end of the month.



March 2021

Local pharmacies and medical providers began to receive shipments of COVID-19 vaccines as manufacturing production increased. In addition to providing vaccinations on-site, Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) vaccination teams were deployed to provide vaccinations to persons residing in senior living facilities and persons experiencing homelessness. ADPH updated its school guidance allowing students to attend in-person classes with universal masking and maintenance of at least three feet distance between persons.

April 2021

Jefferson County peaked at nearly 40,000 COVID-19 weekly vaccine doses administered early in the month. JCDH continued deployment of vaccination teams to senior living facilities, locations serving persons experiencing homelessness, correctional facilities, and some businesses, upon request. JCDH provided vaccines to the general public at the Guy M. Tate Building, and eligibility for COVID-19 vaccinations expanded to include all individuals age 16 years and older. JCDH, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), ADPH, and the Alabama National Guard launched a Community Vaccination Center (CVC) in Bessemer to increase COVID-19 vaccination rates.

A United States government interagency developed a Variant Classification scheme categorizing COVID-19 variants as either a Variant of Interest, a Variant of Concern, or a Variant of High Consequence.

The CDC recommended a temporary pause in the use of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine in late April 2021 after cases of a rare type of blood clot were reported in individuals receiving that vaccine.

May 2021

The COVID-19 case positivity rate fell below the five percent goal for an epidemic in May 2021. Over the next several weeks, vaccination demand waned, and several larger community vaccination sites closed. Community vaccination efforts, however, continued in Jefferson County through mobile pop-up clinics, private medical offices, community health centers, and pharmacies. JCDH was assigned an Alabama National Guard Strike Team for implementing targeted vaccination efforts after the CVC site closed.

June 2021

The COVID-19 case positivity rate reached a low point of 2.8% during June 2021. The Alpha variant remained the predominant Variant of Concern in Jefferson County; however, Beta, Gamma, Delta, and Epsilon strains were also detected. JCDH and the Alabama National Guard Strike Team offered vaccinations in settings including breweries,



sporting events, boarding homes, senior housing facilities, churches, nursing homes, small businesses, health fairs, correctional facilities, rehabilitation facilities, JCDH Health Centers, mobile home communities, community social events, and recreational centers.

July 2021

Although the rate of new COVID-19 vaccination in Jefferson County had significantly dropped by July 2021, the COVID-19 positivity rate began to increase. COVID-19 cases more than doubled in July from the previous month. The Delta variant became the predominant COVID-19 strain in the county, and the majority of new COVID-19 cases were in persons younger than 50 years of age.

The Alabama Hospital Association (AHA) reported that 94% of hospitalized patients with COVID-19 in Alabama hospitals were unvaccinated. The CDC recommended that everyone, including persons fully vaccinated, wear a mask in all indoor settings to reduce the spread of the Delta variant. Dr. Wilson, the Jefferson County Health Officer, issued local recommendations advising mask wearing in public indoor spaces and vaccination. ADPH released updated Back-to-School Guidance based on CDC recommendations. Dr. Wilson met with local school system superintendents and heads of private schools strongly urging policies aligned with ADPH's guidance.

August 2021

In August 2021, COVID-19 cases, the positivity rate, and hospitalizations continued to increase, and the highest proportion of Jefferson County cases, by age group, was in persons younger than age 20. Reports of increasing numbers of children requiring hospitalization for COVID-19 began, with some pediatric patients requiring ventilator support. The AHA reported a critical shortage of ICU beds available to treat COVID-19 patients in Alabama. Governor Ivey declared a state of public health emergency in mid-August, and locally, Dr. Wilson issued a community "Call to Action" including mask wearing recommendations.



The CDC approved an additional dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for moderately to severely immunocompromised people. Later, the CDC announced that more Americans would need a booster dose of a COVID-19 vaccine as early as late September due to waning vaccine effectiveness against infection from the Delta variant and worsening of presenting symptoms in breakthrough cases. Efforts increased statewide to improve access to monoclonal antibody treatment for persons at high-risk of developing more severe COVID-19 illness. By the end of August 2021, the Food



and Drug Administration (FDA) granted full approval of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for individuals 16 years of age and older.

September 2021

The number of new COVID-19 cases and the positivity rate began to decrease again in September 2021, but overall community transmission remained at "High" based on CDC indicators. Hospitals experienced strained resources, and reports emerged of increasing numbers of pregnant women hospitalized due to COVID-19. A significant number of COVID-19 cases were reported by school officials in K-12 schools. The CDC approved a booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for people at increased risk of COVID-19 exposure and complications.

October-November 2021

Jefferson County's COVID-19 positivity and hospitalization rates continued to decline, and overall community transmission was downgraded to "Moderate" per CDC indicators by the end of November. The CDC recommended a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine for fully vaccinated individuals on October 27, 2021. An EUA for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children 5 to 11 years of age was approved.

December 2021

Jefferson County's new COVID-19 cases, positivity rate, overall community transmission level, and hospitalizations dramatically increased during December 2021 with the emergence of the Omicron variant. The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a pause in allocations of two monoclonal antibody treatments for COVID-19 as these were deemed unlikely to be effective in treating the Omicron variant. The FDA granted EUA for two oral antiviral COVID-19 drugs and a new monoclonal antibody treatment for COVID-19 pre-exposure prophylaxis.





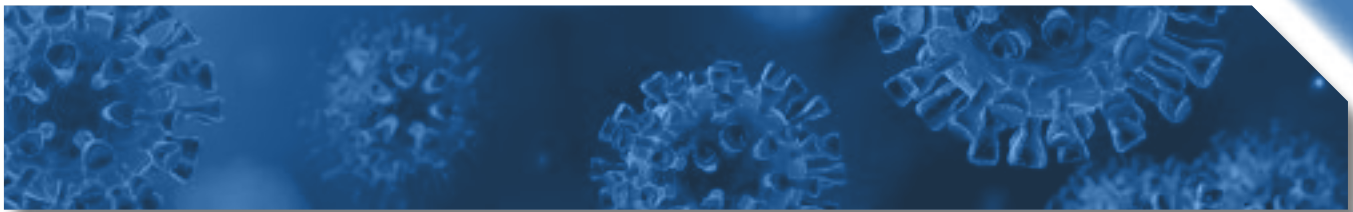
COVID-19 Response Activities

On December 11, 2020, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued the first EUA for a COVID-19 vaccine to be distributed in the United States. In the following days, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) issued an interim recommendation for use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in persons age 16 years and older for the prevention of COVID-19. This recommendation was adopted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and published as an official CDC/Health and Human Services (HHS) recommendation in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) on December 13. On December 18, 2020, the FDA issued an EUA for a second COVID-19 vaccine to be distributed in the U.S. for use in individuals 18 years of age and older. The ACIP subsequently issued an interim recommendation for use of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in persons 18 years and older, and these recommendations were adopted by the CDC Director and published as an official recommendation in the MMWR.

As vaccines were being approved for use, each state was required to develop a COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan and COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Plan. The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) used a federal microplanning tool in developing the vaccine distribution plan for Alabama. This distribution plan determined “where” COVID-19 vaccine would be shipped. Because the vaccine quantity would initially be limited, ADPH utilized the HHS Operation Warp Speed (OWS) Tiberius web microplanning tool and CDC recommendations to develop the Alabama COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Plan. This allocation plan determined “who” or what populations would receive the vaccine during the initial phases of distribution. As more vaccine became available, ADPH revised the allocation plan to expand distribution to populations at risk for contracting COVID-19 and/or experiencing severe disease and eventually to the general public.



On January 5, 2021, the Jefferson County COVID-19 Call Center was established through Unified Command to provide public information regarding the COVID-19 vaccines and assist with vaccination efforts for critical populations. Agencies and individuals eligible for COVID-19 vaccination registered online or through the Call Center where information was captured in an electronic database. In the first four days of operation, volunteers at the Call Center processed more than 26,000 requests for vaccination. To assist with coordination of vaccine administration within critical populations, the Jefferson



County Healthcare Coalition (HCC) Coordinator, Julie Cobb, RN, linked agencies and individuals registered through the Call Center to COVID-19 vaccine providers.

JCDH received its initial shipment of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine on December 28, 2020 and a second shipment on January 4, 2021. In accordance with the Alabama COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Plan, the first vaccine allocation required half of the shipment to be designated for hospital healthcare workers, 15 percent for Emergency Medical Service (EMS) providers, 15 percent for physician offices, and 20 percent for other hospital staff not associated with the point of distribution. On January 5, 2021, JCDH conducted its first vaccination clinic for employees of Children's of Alabama. In the following days, JCDH conducted three vaccination clinics at JCDH and one at Grandview Hospital resulting in 1,348 healthcare workers and EMS employees being vaccinated.

ADPH next expanded eligibility for COVID-19 vaccines to include individuals 75 years of age or older, law enforcement, and firefighters. On January 18, 2021, JCDH held a large-scale drive-through vaccination clinic at Gardendale High School and a walk-in clinic at JCDH's Guy M. Tate (GMT) Building. The two events vaccinated a total of 1,573 individuals. More than 150 JCDH employees volunteered for the two vaccination events as a day of service honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



The lower level parking deck at the GMT Building later served as a prime location to continue drive-through COVID-19 vaccination clinics by providing easy access for individuals seeking vaccination from February through May 2021.

As the demand for COVID-19 vaccination skyrocketed during the first few months of 2021, JCDH quickly realized the success of its vaccination clinics required collaboration and support from multiple internal divisions. Disease Intervention Specialists packed and managed vaccine. Dental Health, Clinical Services, Specialty Clinics, Emergency Preparedness, Pharmacy, and WIC provided staff to manage vaccine inventory, draw up vaccines for administration, and serve as vaccinators and observers at each JCDH vaccination site. Employees from Quality Improvement and Decision Support, Clinical Services, Specialty Clinics, Dental Health, Accounting, and the Central Billing Office worked as scribes and interpreters and assisted with data entry into multiple electronic systems including scheduling software and the state's ImmPrint immunization database. Employees from Environmental Health and the Office of Management Information Systems (MIS) managed the flow of vehicle and foot traffic through the vaccination clinics. Messaging was developed and disseminated to JCDH staff who received calls from the public. Flyers for various vaccination events were designed, and Public Relations promoted vaccination clinics through social media and marketing campaigns. Risk Management surveyed vaccination sites and promoted safe practices at these locations. Employees in Finance and Administration ensured informational packets and consent forms were printed and available, provided logistical support, procured supplies, and ensured



buildings were open and vaccine available throughout the vaccination effort.

On February 8, 2021, Governor Kay Ivey and ADPH extended eligibility for COVID-19 vaccination to individuals 65 years of age or older and additional groups of frontline workers, including those who work in food and agriculture, manufacturing, grocery stores, public transportation, education, childcare, the judiciary, and the US Postal Service. During January and February 2021, JCDH administered over 10,000 doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

In the months to follow, ADPH continued to expand eligibility for COVID-19 vaccination. JCDH increased its efforts to educate the community regarding vaccine effectiveness, conducted vaccination clinics, and responded to surges in COVID-19 cases in the community. To increase JCDH's capacity to meet vaccination demand, Human Resources facilitated the hiring of more than 40 Public Health Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Medical Assistants in temporary part-time positions. When internal staffing resources were stretched, JCDH contracted with local staffing agencies to provide temporary support for case investigation and contact tracing, staffing vaccination and testing clinics, and screening individuals for symptoms and/or exposure to COVID-19 prior to entry into JCDH facilities.

On March 22, 2021, COVID-19 vaccine eligibility was extended to include persons 55 years of age and older, persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, persons ages 16 to 64 years of age with certain high-risk medical conditions, and critical workers not included in the February extension. In collaboration with community partners, JCDH launched a new drive-through vaccination site at the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport.



JCDH received its first shipment of 400 doses of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine in late March 2021. On April 5, 2021, vaccine eligibility for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was extended to all persons 16 years of age and older. Vaccine eligibility was expanded again in May 2021 when the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine received authorization and approval for administration in adolescents ages 12 to 15 years.

JCDH expanded the Jefferson County COVID-19 Call Center to include a scheduling platform used by multiple agencies offering COVID-19 vaccine to the public during March 2021. This platform allowed individuals to view what vaccines were available at various locations and the mode of

delivery such as walk-in or drive-through, identify the agency or provider hosting each clinic, and schedule an



appointment online or by calling the Jefferson County COVID-19 Call Center. The software enabled the agencies providing vaccination to track first and second vaccine doses, send appointment reminders, and cancel appointments.

As COVID-19 vaccines became more readily available in the community, and appointment requests for drive-through and walk-in clinics decreased, JCDH shifted planning efforts and resources from large-scale vaccination clinics for the general public to community-based clinics targeting vulnerable populations. JCDH partnered with the Jefferson County COVID-19 Call Center to establish an electronic request system allowing employers, agencies, and community event coordinators to request on-site vaccination clinics. The JCDH Planning Team evaluated each request and collaborated with other vaccine providers to fulfill requests.



Vaccination Clinic at Blazer Village

JCDH partnered with homeless shelters, assisted living facilities, and retirement communities to offer vaccine on-site to residents, employees, volunteers, and their families. JCDH organized strike teams consisting of vaccine managers and vaccinators to conduct on-site clinics at four homeless shelters and 17 senior living facilities while continuing walk-in vaccination clinics at the GMT Building. During the year, JCDH vaccinated individuals from 27 nursing homes or congregate living facilities and conducted vaccination clinics at more than 20 businesses to help maintain critical infrastructure. JCDH partnered with the Jefferson County jails to ensure staff and inmates received vaccine access.

As schools returned to in-person learning in August 2021, COVID-19 education and vaccinations were offered to families seeking vaccination and certificates of vaccination. JCDH held vaccination clinics for multiple school systems including the Bessemer City, Birmingham City, and Midfield City School Systems, as well as some local colleges and one university. JCDH partnered with UAB Blazer Football to offer COVID-19 vaccination during home football games. A vaccination team was on-site providing education and vaccinations at Legion Field for a local soccer league and at the Morehouse versus Tuskegee football game. Strike teams visited numerous locations on multiple occasions providing first, second, and booster doses of COVID-19 vaccine. Other community events included vaccination clinics at numerous churches, the Southeastern Conference (SEC) Baseball Tournament, food truck events in Tarrant and Morris, Lakeshore Foundation, the Birmingham Zoo, local breweries, Fiesta, Sleeve Against COVID-19, the Birmingham Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, UAB's PATH Clinic, the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office Back on Track Amnesty Event, and more.



JCDH partnered with United Way of Central Alabama (UWCA) and the Jefferson County COVID-19 Call Center to ensure homebound individuals and their caretakers had access to COVID-19 vaccination. UWCA sent postcards to over 5,000 homes encouraging individuals to get vaccinated. Since August 2021, JCDH provided over 160 COVID-19 vaccinations, including first, second, and booster doses, to more than 80 individuals in the home setting.

Throughout the year, JCDH evaluated vaccine distribution and collaborated with ADPH, local municipalities, and vaccine partners to ensure vaccine availability throughout the county, including areas determined to be “vaccine deserts” and those with a high social vulnerability index (SVI). JCDH monitored vaccination rates by location, age, race, and ethnicity, identified populations at greatest risk for poor outcomes, and considered other factors when selecting geographical areas and/or populations for dissemination of targeted COVID-19 messaging, community education, and vaccination efforts. For example, when JCDH observed the low vaccination rate in Hispanic communities, Public Health Language Workers coordinated with local partners to increase awareness and ensure information was distributed in a culturally competent manner. To build vaccine confidence, the Public Health Language Workers spoke at churches and to community groups, worked with businesses and organizations serving the Hispanic community, and went door-to-door in communities in close proximity to vaccination clinics to engage and educate individuals about COVID-19 vaccination, answer questions, and build trust in the vaccines.

In April 2021, ADPH partnered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and JCDH to establish a federally supported Community Vaccination Center (CVC) in Jefferson County. Other partners included the Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA), Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency, Alabama National Guard, and Unified Command for Jefferson County COVID-19 Response. Potential sites for the CVC were evaluated based on data including the CDC's SVI and other Census data, vaccine availability, vaccination rates across the county, public transportation access, proximity to interstate travel, adequacy of outdoor space, and ability to ensure the safety of workers and the public. The Watermark Place located in Bessemer, Alabama was chosen to host the large-scale, drive-through vaccination clinic.



Alabama National Guard partnered with JCDH at the CVC

To ensure proper storage of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at the CVC, an ultracold freezer was secured through AEMA. An inspection performed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ensured proper installation of the



freezer prior to receipt of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine on April 19, 2021. The CVC site was operational from April 21 through June 16, 2021 and provided 6,921 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. On May 13, 2021, JCDH sent staff with experience vaccinating pediatric patients to the CVC site to provide COVID-19 vaccine to adolescents. After demobilization of the CVC site, JCDH received approval to retain the ultra-cold freezer ensuring JCDH's ability to properly store Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for future clinics.

To supplement JCDH personnel and contracted staff at the CVC site, the Alabama National Guard provided staff to oversee vaccine management, serve as vaccinators and observers, and support data entry. FEMA provided on-site logistical and public relations personnel and support to serve in additional operational areas. The Alabama National Guard and JCDH Public Health Language Workers conducted outreach activities in the communities surrounding the CVC site. A second National Guard Strike Team arrived in Jefferson County to assist JCDH with planning and staffing additional community vaccination clinics while the CVC site remained operational. The strike team visited businesses, distributed flyers, provided education, and promoted vaccine confidence.

During 2021, JCDH administered more than 32,550 doses of COVID-19 vaccine. Over 17,500 vaccine doses were delivered in drive-through clinics. Overall, 65% of the COVID-19 vaccine doses given were Moderna vaccine, 34.5% of doses were Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, and less than 1% were Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. Forty-one percent of the COVID-19 vaccine doses administered were given to individuals 65 years of age and older, 23% were administered to individuals 30 to 49 years of age, and 20% were administered to individuals 50 to 64 years of age. JCDH vaccinated over 1,400 children and adolescents. When completing paperwork for vaccination, individuals were asked to provide their race and sex. Of those denoting a specific race, 58% selected Black/African American, and 29% selected White. Overall, 55% of individuals receiving COVID-19 vaccination were female, and 45% were male. However, among individuals 18 to 54 years of age, 54% were male and 46% female.

JCDH continued its collaboration with Golden Point Laboratory in offering expedited COVID-19 testing for public safety, municipal, and county government agency employees. During the year, more than 300 personnel were tested. JCDH provided dedicated staff to receive calls from individuals, enter data into an electronic laboratory system, and provide post-test guidance. Test results were sent directly to the individual tested via text message.



JCDH also partnered with The World Games 2022 Birmingham and Golden Point Laboratory to provide COVID-19 testing for 40 individuals from multiple countries visiting Birmingham to attend planning meetings in 2021 for The World Game competitions scheduled to begin in July 2022.

Disease Control

The Disease Control Division's activities prevent or reduce the spread of infectious disease in Jefferson County. This division consists of the Prevention and Epidemiology, Tuberculosis, and Sexually Transmitted Disease Programs, and the Specialty Clinic.

Prevention and Epidemiology Program

The Prevention and Epidemiology (P&E) Program investigates notifiable diseases, which are diseases required by law to be reported to public health authorities. These include emerging infectious diseases and outbreaks. P&E works closely with community partners such as medical providers, schools, and long-term care facilities to mitigate and prevent disease spread. This year, the P&E Program continued to manage two major community outbreaks—Hepatitis A and COVID-19. P&E led COVID-19 pandemic case investigations and contact tracing during the year. JCDH continued to work with public health partners including the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists by participating in informational calls to remain updated on current and emerging COVID-19 guidance. P&E collaborated with sentinel reporters to obtain influenza-like illness data and assisted ADPH with its respiratory surveillance program in Jefferson County. In 2021, the P&E Program investigated over 500 notifiable diseases through 18 outbreak investigations. Over 33,000 COVID-19 cases were assigned for investigation.

Tuberculosis (TB) Program

The TB Program protects the health of Jefferson County residents by providing services that address the prevention and treatment of TB. The overall objective is to reduce the burden of TB within Jefferson County. This is achieved through education, evaluation, and provision of therapy for Jefferson County residents with suspected or confirmed active TB or who have latent TB infection. Medication for active and suspected TB cases is directly observed to ensure completion of the prescribed course of therapy and reduce the risk of drug resistance. With increased access to care in 2021 following the initial phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, an increase in TB cases from 2020 was observed.

Some of the TB cases identified in 2021 were related to delays in diagnosis created by the pandemic, and most cases were found among persons experiencing homelessness or with substance use disorders.

During 2021, the TB Program followed 17 active tuberculosis cases, a 41.7% increase from the number cases managed during the previous year. A contact investigation was initiated for each TB case to identify, evaluate, and treat exposed individuals and to prevent the spread of the disease. During 2021, JCDH identified and screened over 50 contacts of active TB cases.



Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Program

The STD Program's primary purpose is reducing the spread of sexually transmitted infection (STIs) in Jefferson County. To provide a safer environment for JCDH patients and staff during the pandemic, social distancing was implemented within the STD Program. This resulted in limitations on the number of field visits and face-to-face interviews conducted. As COVID-19 vaccines became more widely available during the year, these restrictions were

Disease Control

reduced, allowing more patients to be served.

The STD Program continued to provide services through fast track screening, interviews, field visits, and limited community outreach activities. Staff collaborated with other governmental, community, medical, and service-based agencies on initiatives to reduce the spread of STIs. The Disease Control Medical Director, Wesley Willeford, MD, in conjunction with ADPH,



Birmingham Mayor Woodfin and STD Program representatives at World AIDS Day

secured over \$2 million in funding for providing ongoing disease intervention services, COVID-19 vaccine education, and pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP and PEP, respectively) to reduce the number of new HIV infections.

In 2021, the STD Program provided 1,155 Fast Track STI screening visits, contacted 3,261 persons diagnosed with a STI or identified as a case contact to an individual with an STI, and interviewed 374 syphilis cases and 141 newly diagnosed HIV cases. A PrEP Navigator was hired to provide education, encouragement, and referral on accessing PrEP services for persons testing negative for HIV. As Jefferson and Mobile Counties led all other Alabama counties in the rate of STIs during 2021, resources were provided in partnership with ADPH for hiring additional JCDH staff to tackle the challenge of increasing STIs.

Specialty Clinic

There were 12,066 unique patients served in the Specialty Clinic: 8,523 patients were seen in the Sexual Health Clinic, 1,474 patients were seen in the TB Clinic, 228 pre-travel consultations were performed, and 1,841 patients were seen in JCDH's Community Service Clinic for vaccinations. To successfully navigate challenges posed by COVID-19, the Specialty Clinic utilized enhanced electronic registration, telephone visits, and pre-visit patient interviews to safely enhance patient throughput.

The Specialty Clinic administered 607 doses of 317 Hepatitis A vaccine in response to the ongoing Hepatitis A outbreak. Hepatitis A vaccines were administered to 125 high-risk and 482 low-risk individuals. The International Travel Clinic reopened in 2021 with reduced capacity due to decreased demand for international travel. The Specialty Clinic conducted 228 pre-travel consultations.

The Sexual Health Clinic continued to offer additional specialty services: 233 PrEP appointments were conducted, and 88 patients were evaluated for Hepatitis C virus treatment.

The Sexual Health Clinic expanded its services to Eastern Health Center where care is provided on Monday and Wednesday of each week. During 2021, 193 patients were evaluated at Eastern Health Center's Sexual Health Clinic.

Health Equity and Population Health

The Health Equity and Population Health Division addresses certain prevalent and high-impact health problems of Jefferson County to improve health equity.

The Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) grant continued in year three of its three-year grant cycle. JCDH provided an online platform for naloxone training to facilitate mail-order naloxone distribution statewide in partnership with the Alabama Department of Mental Health and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH). Over 5,000 naloxone kits (10,000 doses of naloxone) were distributed by JCDH in 2021, including 1,000 kits given to law enforcement in Jefferson County. These naloxone kits saved lives by reversing the effects of many overdoses in the county. Partnerships with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, the Birmingham Police Department, and the Birmingham Housing Authority strengthened local naloxone distribution.

JCDH's online naloxone training and mail-order distribution of naloxone kits were recognized with a National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) 2021 Gold Innovation Practice Award. This innovative work was presented at three national conferences: the NACCHO 360 Annual Conference, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention OD2A Virtual Meeting, and the American Public Health Association 2021 Annual Meeting. In further recognition of JCDH's work in overdose prevention, Sarah Howell, CRNP, was chosen as a NACCHO Mentee in Health Equity and Overdose Response.

JCDH obtained access to multiple data sources enabling the identification of Jefferson County overdose hot spots within 24 hours of an overdose occurring. The Jefferson County COVID-19 Related Overdose Task Force continued to meet on a monthly basis with additional community partners and stakeholders.



Naloxone nasal spray kit

The Health Equity and Population Health Division initiated several new projects in 2021 including a new grant through NACCHO, "Implementing Overdose Prevention Strategies at the Local Level." The funding from this grant increased access to Peer Support Specialists for patients presenting to local emergency departments with an overdose or other substance-use related diagnosis. This patient support is facilitated through a relationship with Peer RX™, an online peer referral program. Through this grant, JCDH receives technical assistance from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for implementing new programs proven successful in other parts of the country.

In June 2021, JCDH began a partnership with ADPH on a health disparities grant. Projects included in this grant are employee diversity training, development of equity and inclusion principles, and establishing an Office of Health Equity at JCDH.

JCDH's From Day One (FDO) Program continued in 2021 to address causes of infant mortality and improve the life course of low-income infants and their families. Among the referrals to FDO received from the UAB Maternity Program in 2021, there were 84 active FDO clients as of December 31, 2021. JCDH's FDO Program expanded to include



Health Equity and Population Health

referrals from the Alabama Regional Medical Services (ARMS) Maternity Service. During 2021, 39 infants were born to FDO participants, and 48 participants graduated from this 18-month program during 2021. Since its launch in February 2018, 120 participants have completed the FDO Program.

The FDO Program implemented the “Count-the-Kicks” Program during the participant’s third trimester of pregnancy. Count-the-Kicks is an evidenced-based stillbirth prevention campaign providing educational resources to expectant mothers. Developed in Norway, the Count-the-Kicks Program has reduced stillbirth by 30% through teaching pregnant women to monitor fetal movement utilizing daily kick counts.

FDO Program participants were invited to a Baby Safety Shower in their third trimester of pregnancy. The quarterly Baby Safety Showers included professional community partners providing information on safety and childhood injury prevention. Three Baby Safety Showers were held virtually in 2021 with touchless, drive-by distribution of “in-kind” gifts for the 24 participants.



FDO Baby Safety Showers provide education and supplies to improve newborn safety

JCDH continued its partnership with IMPACT Family Counseling to provide safe sleep education for low-income maternity patients to reduce infant mortality in Jefferson County. These classes were held three times a month via Zoom. The FDO Program also partnered with the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) to provide comprehensive patient services for first-time maternity patients unable to participate in the NFP Program due to enrollment limitations.

A quarterly Maternal Child Health (MCH) Roundtable Newsletter was implemented to update the 69 stakeholder organizations on resources to support healthy mothers and babies. A virtual MCH meeting was held in October 2021.



Maternal Child Health Roundtable training

Quality Improvement and Decision Support

The Quality Improvement and Decision Support (QIDS) Division provides assessment, planning, and evaluation services for internal and external operations.

Additionally, QIDS leads JCDH's quality improvement and performance management programs. During 2021, QIDS contributed to COVID-19 mitigation by supporting vaccination efforts, conducting research, and providing technical writing.

QIDS continued to develop, with numerous partners, the goals, strategies, tactics, and metrics for addressing the strategic issues within Jefferson County's five-year strategic plan for health, the **Community Health Improvement Plan for Jefferson County, Alabama (CHIP)**. These five strategic issues are:

1. Control Gun Violence and Improve Community Safety
2. Provide a Timely, Safe, Equitable and Well-maintained Public Transportation System
3. Improve Mental Health Care Access and Utilization
4. Decrease Obesity
5. Advance Health Equity through Equitable Policies and Access to Resources and Services.

QIDS engaged the Health Alliance for Violence Intervention as a consultant and participated in conducting the assessment of Jefferson County's readiness for launching a hospital-based violence intervention program (HVIP) in collaboration with UAB Hospital's Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Service. HVIPs are an evidence-based strategy for reducing violence using a multi-disciplinary approach to assist patients hospitalized with violent injuries and their families with hospital-and community-based resources addressing the underlying risk factors for violence. As a result of these actions, QIDS developed a detailed request for proposal for a community-based organization to lead the HVIP case management component for release in early 2022. In addition, funding was secured through the Jefferson County Board of Health to launch the program and from the City of Birmingham to expand the program in years two and three. QIDS also developed or deepened partnerships and collaborations with the Community Roundtable, Moms Demand Action, One Place Metro Alabama Family Justice Center, Children's of Alabama, Faith in Action Alabama, UAB Hospital, and the City of Birmingham, who share the common goal of reducing gun violence and improving community safety.



CHIP partners, like JCDH, began to return to more normal operations as the COVID-19 pandemic continued during 2021. The Alabama Obesity Task Force continued developing the **Alabama Physical Activity and Nutrition Plan**. The pandemic exacerbated the urgency for expanding mental health services and advancing health equity, both of which were realized through JCDH and CHIP partner organizations. QIDS partnered with the Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority and its Transit Re-imagining Initiative which published **Forward with MAX: A Foundation for the Future**, a plan to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of MAX services.

QIDS and other JCDH divisions continued supporting the Health Action Partnership (HAP) of Jefferson County, a coalition of over 100 organizations working collaboratively to make Jefferson County, Alabama a healthier place to live, learn, work, worship, and play. The HAP Optimizing Healthcare Access Priority Group, co-chaired by JCDH's

Quality Improvement and Decision Support



Khalilah Brown, MD and Darlene Traffanstedt, MD, includes subgroups which maintained communication through Zoom meetings and written communications during 2021. The Maternal and Child Health Roundtable provided information on funding announcements and training opportunities. The Drug Overdose subgroup, in response to the drastic increase in opioid drug overdose deaths in Jefferson County during 2020, utilized innovative data strategies to identify overdose hot spots and provide overdose prevention. The Safety Net Leaders subgroup, comprised of healthcare providers for uninsured and underinsured populations, continued development of a strategic plan for coordinating indigent health care within Jefferson County and filling service gaps. The Mental Health Priority Group joined forces with the Mental Health Roundtable and conducted a mental health needs assessment.

Quality improvement activities conducted in 2021 included ongoing data analysis to inform improvements in the New Employee Orientation Program and initiation of a clinic billing project. Data support was provided for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Gonococcal Isolates Surveillance Project, and survey design and analysis were provided for projects including an assessment of Clinical Services' training needs, the 2021 Household Hazardous Waste Day, an assessment of healthcare organization's modifications to care access during the COVID-19 pandemic, and satisfaction with the employee newsletter and revisions to the online request system.

Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Services Division includes the Community Environmental Protection, Air and Radiation Protection, Food and Lodging Protection, Community Assessment, and Emergency Preparedness and Response subdivisions.

Community Environmental Protection

Sections of the Community Environmental Protection (CEP) Program include Onsite Sewage, Public Swimming Pools, Community Sanitation, Rabies Control, Vector Control, Body Art, and Watershed Protection. Each section completes inspections, conducts investigations, and provides education on environmental health issues affecting the residents of Jefferson County.

Investigation of environmental concerns and inspection of select facilities allow JCDH to monitor compliance with regulations; however, education is a proactive means of preventing health concerns and improving environmental health conditions. The Watershed Protection section presented training on erosion, sedimentation control, and stormwater standard operation procedures for 31 builders and municipal officers. Watershed Protection provided additional community education through pamphlets entitled, “How to Keep Our Water Clean,” “Protecting Streams and Storm Drains from Pet Waste Pollution,” and “Proper Disposal of Pesticides.”

JCDH, the Storm Water Management Authority, Inc., and the City of Bessemer and Jefferson County Stormwater programs held a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on April 24, 2021. JCDH staff and 91 volunteers received 239,414 pounds of waste from 1,242 participants.



Electronics brought to Household Hazardous Waste Day



Volunteers collect household items for disposal



Items collected at Household Hazardous Waste Day



Jefferson County Commissioner Joe Knight and staff taking a break

Environmental Health

JCDH and the Valley Creek Cleanup Committee held the 11th Biannual Cleanup on the Valley Creek Watershed from Wednesday, August 11 through Saturday, August 14, 2021. Over 36.6 tons of trash and debris were removed from the watershed by JCDH staff and 246 volunteers during this event.



Physical exercise is important for health



Volunteers at Valley Creek Clean Up

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS

TYPE	NUMBER
Mobile Home Park	50
Body Art Facility	48
Solid Waste Transfer Station	2

COMPLAINTS

TYPE	NUMBER
Sanitation	889
Animal Exposure	680
Onsite Sewage Disposal	393
Water Quality	253

INSPECTIONS

TYPE	NUMBER
Onsite Sewage Disposal	2,175
Pool/Spa	1,446
Industrial Stormwater Runoff	333
Stormwater Samples	234
Garbage Hauler	220
Mobile Home Park	100
Solid Waste Facility	15
Transfer Station	2

Environmental Health

Air and Radiation Protection

The Air and Radiation Protection subdivision includes the Air Pollution Control, Air Monitoring, and Radiological Health Programs.

The Air Pollution Control Program regulates industrial sources of air pollution. Area sources of pollution include gasoline stations and tanker trucks, dry cleaners, open burning, and asbestos demolition and renovation activities.

For industrial and area sources of air pollution, JCDH staff conducted routine and periodic inspections of facilities, ensured consistent compliance with regulations through receipt of reports and review of records, and initiated regulation enforcement actions when warranted.

The Air Monitoring Program operates a complex network of air monitoring stations located throughout Jefferson County to assess ambient air quality. Data from these monitors are used to determine compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's National Ambient Air Quality Standards for criteria pollutants.

The Air Monitoring Program issues daily air quality forecasts for the Birmingham area based on the Air Quality Index (AQI). The AQI is a color-coded scale displaying the level of air pollution and the level's associated health effects. Fine particle (PM_{2.5}) pollution forecasts are provided by JCDH year-round; the Alabama Department of Environmental Management forecasts ozone (O₃) levels during the warm season. An Air Quality Alert is issued when a high AQI is forecast. The public is encouraged to decrease emissions from personal activities such as automobile use on days with higher air pollution levels.

AQI BASICS FOR OZONE AND PARTICLE POLLUTION

Daily AQI Color	Levels of Concern	Values of Index	Description of Air Quality
Green	Good	0 to 50	Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Yellow	Moderate	51 to 100	Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be a risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
Orange	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101 to 150	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected.
Red	Unhealthy	151 to 200	Some members of the general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.
Purple	Very Unhealthy	201 to 300	Health Alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone.
Maroon	Hazardous	301 and higher	Health warning of emergency conditions: Everyone is more likely to be affected.

The Radiological Health Program evaluates equipment and operating procedures of x-ray and tanning facilities throughout the county. Assuring compliance with regulations provides protection against accidental harmful exposures during medical x-rays and tanning salon visits.

Environmental Health

During 2021, Air and Radiation Protection conducted 91 industrial facility inspections and initiated three industrial, five asbestos, and three open burning enforcement actions. Staff conducted 336 x-ray facility inspections and 31 tanning facility inspections.

Food and Lodging Protection

The Food and Lodging Protection (FLP) subdivision regulates food establishments, lodging facilities, communal living facilities, and childcare centers. Each of these industries is governed by separate regulations; FLP is responsible for permitting, inspecting, investigating complaints, and enforcement action for each. FLP provides guidance to each industry for sanitary operations and compliance with regulations. Additionally, FLP provides consumer food safety information and formal food safety education for food service industry personnel.

As evidenced by the number of permit or facility records, the COVID-19 pandemic did not significantly reduce the number of entities regulated by JCDH in 2021. There were no major gains or losses in any sector, although many facilities altered hours, services, and menus.

FLP initiated preparation for temporary food services for The World Games, a 10-day international athletic competition scheduled to take place in Jefferson County in July 2022. This work involved meetings with planning sections of The World Games, prospective food vendors, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and other agencies. An Incident Command structure was operationalized to manage food vendor regulation for the event.

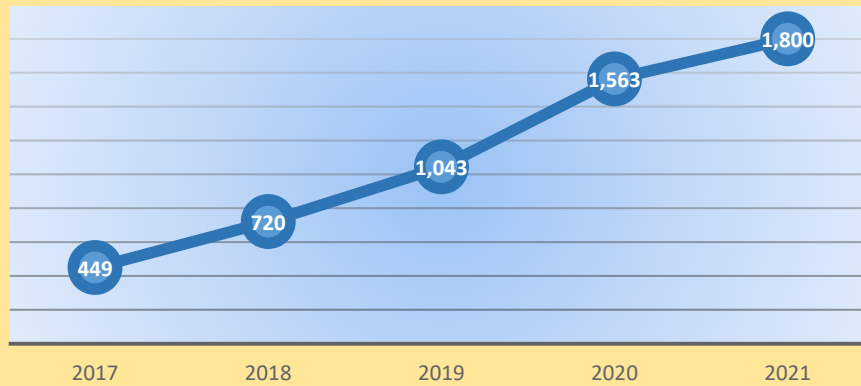
FLP adapted its work processes to meet the state's expanded cottage food law and a new law conditionally allowing food establishments to allow pet dogs in outdoor dining venues.

Participation in JCDH's online payment/permit renewal option continued to increase in 2021, although at a slower rate than in prior years. Online permit renewal for JCDH-issued permits increased 33% overall during 2021, including a 13% increase in online food permit renewals. Online renewals accounted for 39% of all food permits (excluding fee exempt), 40% of all lodging permits, and 20% of all communal living facility permits.

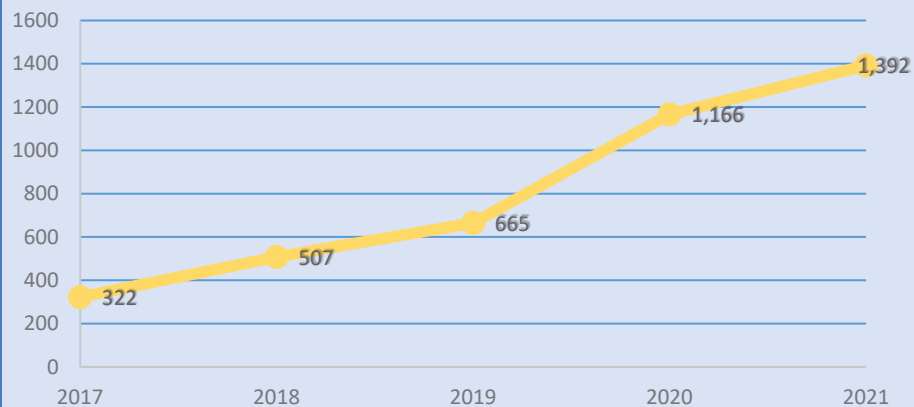
YEAR	NUMBER OF PERMITS PAID ONLINE	PERCENT CHANGE	NUMBER OF INVOICES PAID ONLINE	PERCENT CHANGE	AMOUNT PAID ONLINE (GROSS)	PERCENT CHANGE
2017	449		322		\$207,000.00	
2018	720	38%	507	36%	\$337,200.00	39%
2019	1,043	31%	665	24%	\$463,053.00	27%
2020	1,563	33%	1,166	43%	\$729,200.22	36%
2021	1,800	13%	1,392	16%	\$907,305.22	20%

Environmental Health

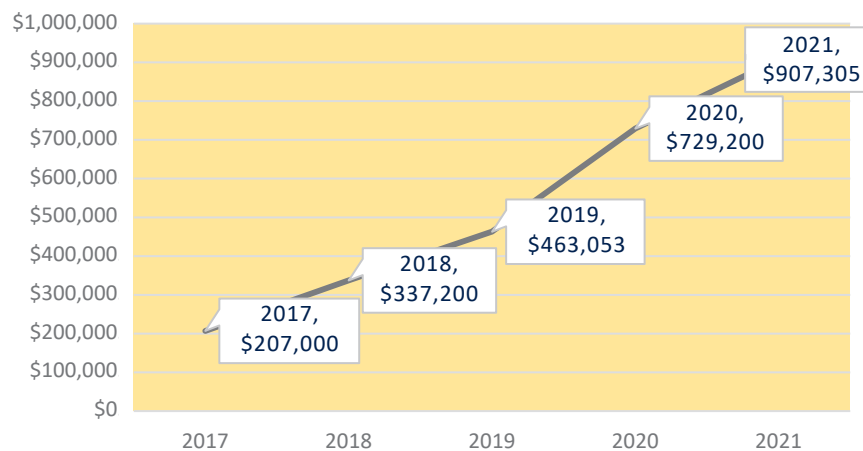
Number of Permits Renewed Online by Year



Number of Invoices Paid Online by Year



Permit Fees Paid Online by Year (gross)



Environmental Health

PERMITS		
FOOD PERMITS/ESTABLISHMENTS	2021 NUMBER	PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2020
Food Service Establishment	1,798	3%
Limited Food Service	829	3%
Limited Retail Food Store	317	-2%
Mobile Food Vendor	267	14%
Childcare Center (food permit)	213	0%
Retail Food Store	210	1%
Temporary Food Service Vendor	199	40%
Bar and Lounge	172	11%
Public School Lunchroom	161	0%
Ballpark Concession Stand	148	0%
Food Processor	86	5%
Nursing Home Kitchen	50	0%
Elderly Feeding Site	32	0%
Private School Lunchroom	25	4%
Other Institutional Kitchen	16	-6%
Hospital Kitchen	14	0%
Charitable Non-permitted Food Establishment	10	10%
Jail and Prison Food Service	5	0%
Summer Feeding Site	4	0%
Total Permitted (Food)	4,556	5%
OTHER FACILITY PERMITS BY TYPE		
Childcare	270	-1%
Hotel/Motel	133	2%
Communal Living	49	-4%
Camp	20	15%
Other Facilities Total	472	0%
Total Permitted Facilities	5,028	4%

Environmental Health

INSPECTIONS		
	2021 NUMBER	PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2020
Food	12,990	34%
Childcare	274	26%
Lodging (hotel/motel)	78	45%
Communal Living	10	-10%
Camp	1	100%
Total All Inspections	13,353	33%

COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED		
	2021 NUMBER	PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2020
Complaints Received	553	-9%
Complaint Investigations	831	-2%
COVID-19 Order Compliance Complaints Investigated or Referred	63	-1,560%

FOOD SAFETY EDUCATION		
FOOD HANDLER TRAINING	2021 NUMBER	PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2020
Classroom (JCDH)	0	
Satellite (off-site)	380	100%
Online	8,827	7%
Total Learners Trained	9,207	8%

OTHER SERVICES		
	2021 NUMBER	PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2020
Temporary Food Events	76	51%

2021 ONLINE PERMIT RENEWAL	
Number of Permits Paid	1,805
Number of Invoices Paid	1,394
Billed Amount	\$908,531.02
PayPal Net Amount	\$880,615.31

Environmental Health

Community Assessment

Many of the Community Assessment subdivision's activities were temporarily suspended during 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Community Assessment personnel were reassigned to COVID-19 specific duties including:

- Working at vaccination sites;
- Investigating COVID-19 complaints;
- Providing advice and consulting for COVID-19 compliance;
- Verifying retailer policies;
- Enforcing COVID-19 orders;
- Enforcing the posting of maximum occupancy and social distancing guidance signage;
- Verifying the maximum occupancy numbers of large retailers to enable six foot distancing;
- Transporting COVID-19 test kits to and from external sites;
- Distributing various JCDH literature;
- Screening clients at the entrance to the Guy M. Tate Building, and
- Answering questions from the public.

The Community Assessment subdivision participated in the Cooper Green Mercy Health Services Health Fair by distributing informational materials on the following topics: tobacco, 1-800-QUIT-NOW, food handling, watershed protection, septic tanks, rabies, open burning, air pollution, and COVID-19 testing and vaccination. Over 250 participants attended this community health fair. Additionally, Community Assessment staff collaborated in Fiesta, the largest celebration of Hispanic culture in the southeast. Over 200 Fiesta participants received educational packages and engaged in question and answer sessions related to Environmental Health Services.



Assisting community members with COVID-19 testing instructions

Environmental Health

Emergency Preparedness and Response

The Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP) subdivision continued to utilize an “all hazards” approach focused on capacities and capabilities critical in preparedness for a full spectrum of emergencies and disasters. EP played a fundamental role in assisting with the COVID-19 vaccination of the critical healthcare workforce, first responders, homebound individuals, and residents of long-term care facilities. EP also capitalized on prior knowledge gained from mock drive-through vaccination and medication administration clinics to assist in planning and implementing full-scale, drive-through COVID-19 vaccination clinics. JCDH’s first drive-through COVID-19 vaccination clinic at Gardendale High School administered almost 1,000 vaccinations. For many months, JCDH used its employee



JCDH staff at Fiesta

parking deck to host additional drive-through vaccination clinics. During the course of the pandemic, JCDH provided vaccinations at all three JCDH Health Centers, workplaces, in portable mobile units, and at community events. EP assisted with the planning and operation of a mass Community Vaccination Center (CVC) located in Bessemer. For this effort, JCDH collaborated with federal, state, and local partners to offer COVID-19 vaccinations for a period of eight weeks.

The Jefferson County Healthcare Coalition (HCC), for which EP provides critical support, is essential in coordinating healthcare efforts, maintaining situational

awareness, and providing critical guidance to HCC Coalition member agencies. The HCC’s primary focus for 2021 was response to COVID-19. Medical surge for acute care hospitals reached a peak in early January 2021 with 683 hospitalized COVID-19 positive patients. While battling the medical surge, hospitals were initially providing COVID-19 vaccinations to their staff, other healthcare workers, and first responders. Vaccination coordination continued through the HCC, and efforts later extended to all healthcare provider types, including pharmacies. As medical surge declined to a pandemic low at the end of June 2021, the Delta variant surge resulted in over 500 hospitalized patients by mid-August 2021. The daily response to COVID-19 has become the “new normal” as the HCC turned its focus to improving capacity and capabilities to manage a burn mass casualty incident.



Non-smoking messages distributed creatively



JCDH's Deputy Health Officer, David Hicks, DO, oversees operations at a mass vaccination site

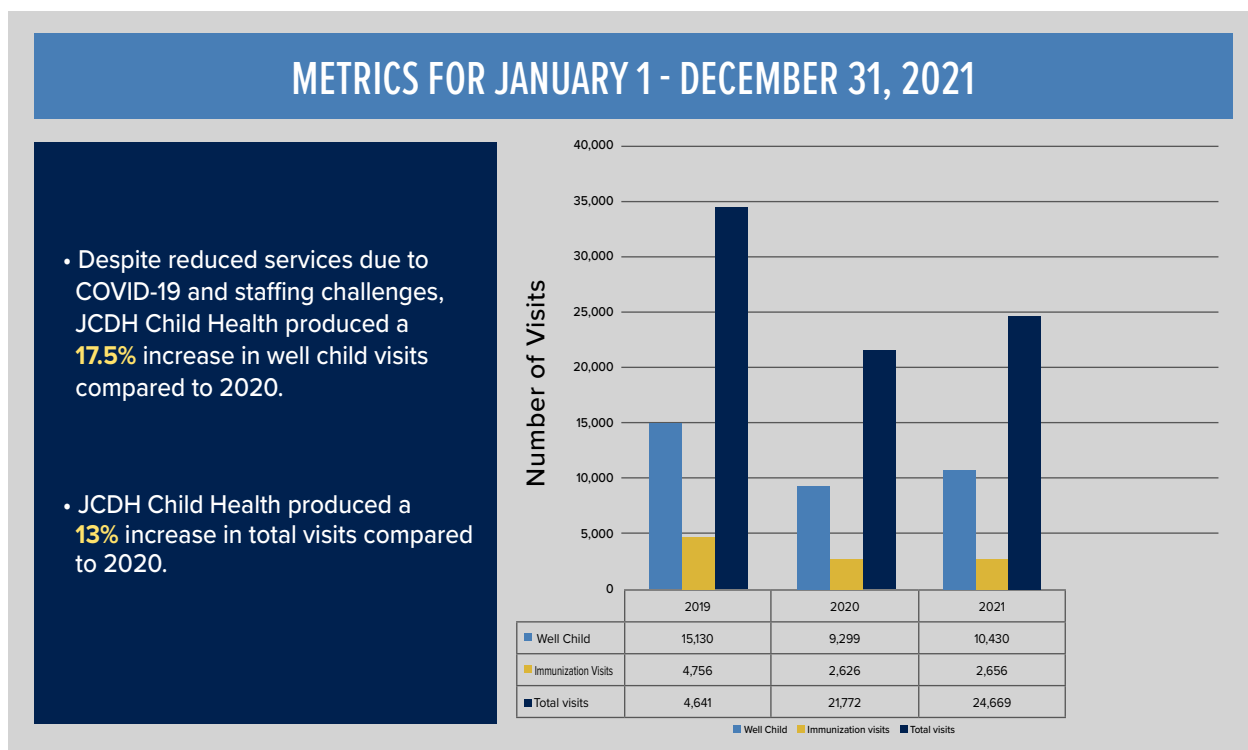
Clinical Services

The Clinical Services Division includes Child Health, Family Planning, Laboratory Services, the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Special Supplemental Nutrition Program, Public Health Language Services, Social Services, and Dental Health.

Child Health

JCDH Child Health entered 2021 with a stepwise plan to safely expand services to children in Jefferson County after ten months of reduced services due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On April 5, 2021, Child Health welcomed its first in-person patient to Eastern Health Center for well child care since March 2020. With a goal to begin offering sick and acute care visits at all three clinic locations, Child Health used the summer months to install high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtration systems in exam rooms to ensure the safety of staff and patients. On September 8, 2021, Child Health resumed offering all services at all locations, with well care patients receiving care in the morning and sick care provided in the afternoon to maximize precautions for an age group ineligible for COVID-19 vaccination at that time.

In May 2021, Child Health was selected by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as one of the country's 50 Promoting Pediatric Primary Prevention (P4) Challenge Phase 1 awardees. This challenge's goal is to increase well child visits and immunization rates in local communities experiencing a significant decline in clinic visit rates due to the COVID-19 pandemic. From July 26 through August 27, 2021, Child Health partnered with JCDH Social Services to offer a Back-to-School Immunization Clinic and focused Well Child Weeks. During this time, Social Services contacted patients identified as delinquent in completing routine immunizations and/or well child care, helped eliminate barriers to care, and scheduled patients for either the Immunization Clinic or visits during the Well Child Focus Weeks. Child Health offered age-specific information on immunizations, hand hygiene, dental care, WIC, early literacy, the Head Start Program, family planning, and sexual health. During the four weeks of the Well

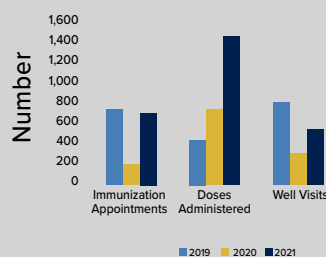


Clinical Services

BACK TO SCHOOL CLINIC DATA - July 26th - August 6th and August 16th-28th

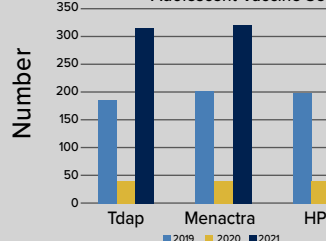
- Goals of “Back-to-School Clinic” were to increase well child visits and routine immunizations.
- Overall, well child visits increased by **45%**, and immunizations increased by **79%** compared to the same one month period in 2020.
- There was an **87%** increase among adolescents receiving the vaccine series.

Back-to-School Clinic Metrics



Year	2019	2020	2021
Immunization Appointments	725	139	675
Doses Administered	428	716	1,432
Well Visits	789	287	529

Adolescent Vaccine Series



Year	2019	2020	2021
Tdap	184	41	312
Menactra	197	40	315
HPV	197	45	302

Child Focus Week initiative, 1,465 patients received well child care and/or immunizations. During this initiative, 1,432 vaccine doses were administered. Through systematic augmentation and P4 Challenge events, JCDH increased well child visits by 30% and vaccine administration by 41% as of August 31, 2021 when compared to 2020.

Family Planning

JCDH Family Planning Clinics closed for in-person visits in early April 2020. Central and Eastern Health Centers reopened in September 2020, and Western Health Center reopened in April 2021, allowing the JCDH Family Planning Clinics to return to pre-pandemic operations. Despite ongoing challenges, JCDH Family Planning provided care for 6,071 unduplicated patients during 2021. Numerous Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine clinics conducted by Family Planning in 2021 provided 180 HPV vaccines at no cost to the patient to decrease the risk of HPV transmission and cervical cancer. During 2021, staff training for placement of intrauterine devices (IUDs) was initiated to expand birth control options for JCDH patients. Two Family Planning nurse practitioners were fully trained to place IUDs, and training is ongoing for the remaining nurse practitioners.

Continuing education about breast cancer screening and substance use was provided to the Family Planning staff. In November 2021, JCDH Family Planning implemented the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT-C) and Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-20) to assess drug dependence in patients over age 18 years presenting for initial or annual examinations. These screening tools identify substance use issues for women in the family planning phase of reproductive life and support early intervention.

Family Planning staff provided education at several outreach activities including Fiesta, the Cooper Green Hispanic Health Fair, and the Jefferson County Family Resource Center Health and Job Fair.

Laboratory Services

JCDH Laboratory Services experienced supply chain issues similar to those of other laboratories across the county in 2021, but continued to provide patient testing services despite this challenge. To expedite diagnosis and treatment,

Clinical Services

JCDH provided simultaneous testing for COVID-19, Influenza, and/or RSV using a single swab from the patient. As JCDH increased access to care at its health centers during 2021, laboratory services expanded. Sexual health testing became available at Eastern Health Center (EHC) with the launch of the EHC Sexual Health Lab. Additionally, HIV point-of-care testing was provided to patients meeting established criteria.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) continued to serve low-income families in Jefferson County in 2021. WIC services include nutrition education, breastfeeding support, healthy food access, and referral to other services. The Jefferson County District of WIC includes three WIC clinics, located at the JCDH Central, Eastern, and Western Health Centers. The number of Jefferson County WIC District participants decreased by 467 from September 2020 to 12,898 participants in September 2021, reflective of the participant decline seen across Alabama. It is unclear if this decline was due to the COVID-19 pandemic, increases in other federal resources, or limited staff in the clinics to process the volume of clients in a timely manner.



As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, federal waivers were issued and extended through April 5, 2022 to allow flexibility in delivering WIC services. Since March 2020, WIC services have been offered through telephone encounters and automatic issuance of WIC benefits for children and pregnant women. In January 2021, benefit automatic issuance expanded to include benefits for non-breastfeeding women and fully formula-fed infants. Breastfed infants and breastfeeding women were monitored more closely, and benefits were issued monthly by the WIC Program.

Early in the year, it was discovered that many WIC participants were unaware of the receipt of automatic benefits; and thus, these benefits were not redeemed. In February 2021, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) WIC Office began sending text messages to WIC participants about expiring benefits. Each Alabama WIC District received access to a monthly listing of participants who had not used the benefits. JCDH staff contacted individuals to learn more about benefit use and provide information. Some WIC participants reported receiving so much assistance from other resources that the WIC benefits were not needed. Others expressed reluctance to shop in stores due to the COVID-19 pandemic which prevented benefit redemption. While many grocery stores implemented delivery and/or curbside services during the pandemic, WIC participants were unable to use WIC benefits when purchasing products for delivery or curbside pickup. Additionally, periodic changes in the WIC Cash Value Benefit occurred during the year requiring communication to WIC participants.

As more cleaning and sanitizing resources became available, the WIC Program resumed its breast pump loan program in March 2021. Upon return, the pumps are properly sanitized. When cleaning resources were limited, WIC staff provided manual or single user electric pumps to encourage feeding with breast milk.

Following landfall of Hurricane Henri on August 29, 2021, the WIC Program assisted families who evacuated to the Jefferson County area.

All 65 approved WIC vendors serving Jefferson County received training on the WIC Program in September 2021. Since September 2021, however, WIC vendors have experienced supply chain issues resulting in limited access to a variety of WIC-approved foods and some special formulas. In response to supply chain issues, the ADPH WIC Office distributed special formulas around the state to ensure access for infants with special formula needs.

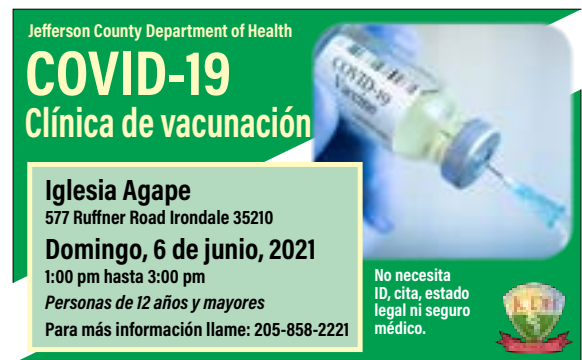
Clinical Services

Public Health Language Services

Early in 2021, JCDH began providing COVID-19 vaccinations. Public Health Language Workers (PHLWs) supported community vaccination through language access, conducting in-person outreach encouraging the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) community to get vaccinated, and placing COVID-19 vaccination flyers in various locations across the county. Alongside the JCDH Vaccination Strike Team, PHLWs assisted at vaccination sites in trailer parks, soccer fields, and churches, etc. In addition, PHLWs provided language access at vaccination clinics held at Hispanic supermarkets, local Catholic churches and social service agencies.

PHLWs continued to provide COVID-19 case investigation and contact tracing services for Jefferson County's LEP population. The JCDH Call Center Language Team provided updated information to clients regarding COVID-19 vaccination clinics and encouraged vaccination. In addition, PHLWs supported Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination within the LEP community by calling patients and encouraging receipt of the HPV vaccine.

During 2021, JCDH increased its ability to provide meaningful language access by adding Braille translations through a contract with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind (AIDB).



Although the number of written translations of materials produced by JCDH decreased from 2020 to 2021, translation of materials into the languages of the community continued to be a priority. During Fiscal Year 2021, language services were provided for 63,514 encounters at JCDH Health Centers. Language services were provided in an array of

languages such as Spanish, K'iche', Vietnamese, Arabic, Russian, Portuguese, Luganda, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, French, Akateco, and Kanjobal.



Public Health Language Workers

The Language Services Program coordinated JCDH's engagement in Fiesta, the largest Latin festival in the southeast. During this event, PHLWs assisted in providing COVID-19 vaccinations and offered language access to LEP event participants.

During 2021, PHLWs additionally bridged the gap between JCDH and the LEP community by providing Spanish speakers for various media outlets and serving as a liaison in the international community.

Social Services

The Social Services (SS) Program continued to overcome challenges in 2021 created by the COVID-19 pandemic and worker shortages. In keeping with the Social Services mission to "utilize skilled professionals to improve the health and wellness of individuals, families, and communities through collaboration, education, empowerment, and support," SS team members remained diligent in providing services for JCDH patients at Central, Eastern, and Western Health Centers, the Sexual Health Clinic, and for the Health Equity and Population Health Division. More than 8,630 encounters, 988 letters, and 338 patient cases were documented in the electronic medical record of services rendered to JCDH's Child Health, Family Planning, WIC, and Dental Health patients. Services provided included:

Clinical Services

- Intake and Assessment

- Case Management

- Insurance Enrollment

- Health Education

- Community Referrals

- Appointment Scheduling

- Linkage to Services

- Medical Advocacy

- Transportation

- Health System Navigation

Social Services maintains valuable partnerships within JCDH and among community-based agencies. The following represent a few collaborative activities and initiatives:

- Assisted 53 families with newborn hearing screening and childhood lead poisoning prevention resources in coordination with ADPH.
- Assessed 245 families for the Promoting Pediatric Primary Prevention (P4) Challenge award. This partnership with JCDH's Child Health Program emphasized updating vaccinations and well child visits and offered COVID-19 vaccines to adults during a 20-day timeframe.
- Provided approximately 350 vaccinations and other COVID-related supports to people experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness with other community partners.

Social Services trained 141 persons on the use of PeerRX™, a software program linking substance involved individuals and their families with peer support while working with JCDH's Health Equity and Population Health Division.

Dental Health

Due to the reassignment of staff to support JCDH's COVID-19 response, JCDH Dental Health halted in-clinic patient care operations for nearly 16 months beginning mid-March 2020. This temporary suspension of in-clinic dental care ended in mid-July 2021. During clinic closure, JCDH dentists provided patient consultation via phone, teledentistry visits, and referrals for in-person care, as needed, for patients experiencing dental problems.



Dental Health Clinic

While unable to provide direct patient care, Dental Health joined forces under JCDH Incident Command to promote JCDH's core mission to "prevent, promote, and protect" in response to the extraordinary needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Dental staff embraced JCDH's values of compassion and collaboration by serving the public via staffing the following activities: JCDH Health Center Entrance Screening Station Unit, COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Unit, Quarantine (Isolation) Release Unit, and the Case Investigation and Contact Tracing Unit.

By mid-2021, with the personal protective equipment (PPE) supply improved, several JCDH Incident Command units demobilized, and after careful review of current infection control guidelines, JCDH Dental Administration formed an action plan to reopen each JCDH Health Center Dental Clinic. JCDH Dental Health staff resumed in-person patient care on July 19, 2021. With the installation of several CDC-recommended COVID-19 aerosol safeguards, including HEPA air filtration units and ultraviolet germicidal lighting systems, JCDH offered a safe environment for providing dental care to the underserved and/or uninsured residents of Jefferson County.

Finance and Administration

The Finance and Administration Division includes Accounting, Central Billing Office, General Services, Human Resources, Management Information Systems, Public Relations, and Vital Records.

General Services

The General Services subdivision is responsible for the facilities management of 16 department properties including renovation, remodeling, maintenance, custodial services, overall safety and security, landscaping, and upkeep of grounds. The General Services subdivision also includes the operations and activities of the Print Shop and Record Management. Key projects initiated or completed in 2021 include:

- Continued logistical support and recommendations for COVID-19 related projects, including the installation of two modular units on JCDH properties to assist with COVID-19 testing and vaccine administration;
- Upgrading of JCDH's security and surveillance system;
- Installation of an integrated paging system for the Guy M. Tate Building;
- Contracting for an emergency generator at Eastern Health Center, and
- Purchase and installation of six outdoor storage units for emergency preparedness equipment and supplies.

Architectural design for the renovations of JCDH's Annex Building and Parking Pavilion began in 2021. These renovations will provide additional space and amenities during public health emergencies.

Human Resources

The primary focus of the Human Resources subdivision and its Risk Management section for 2021 was supporting JCDH in COVID-19 activities. Human Resources and Risk Management worked closely with the COVID-19 Incident Command Team to keep employees safe and well.

In 2021, 36 full-time employees and 15 interns were hired by Human Resources. Fifteen retirement applications were processed. Additionally, temporary employees were hired to assist with COVID-19 activities.

All JCDH employees participated in online annual compliance and privacy training. Additionally, employees completed an online defensive driving course. Defensive driving helps protect employees and the public by teaching drivers to anticipate hazards to avoid accidents. To support employee well-being, JCDH's Employee Assistance Program provider conducted voluntary mental health webinars for staff focused on managing stress created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Management Information Services (MIS)

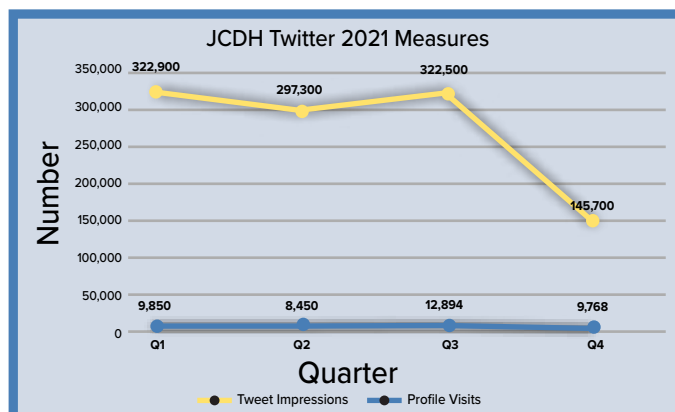
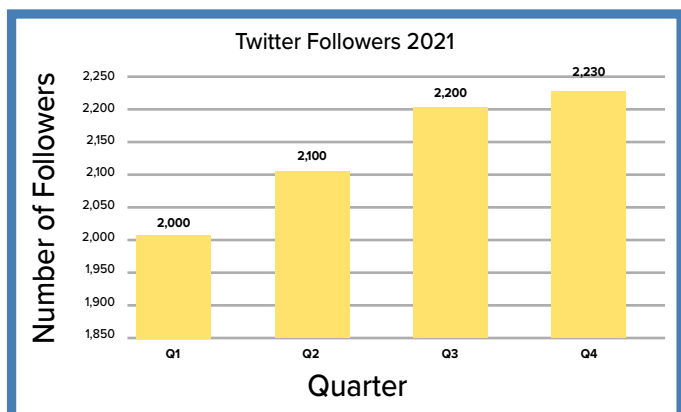
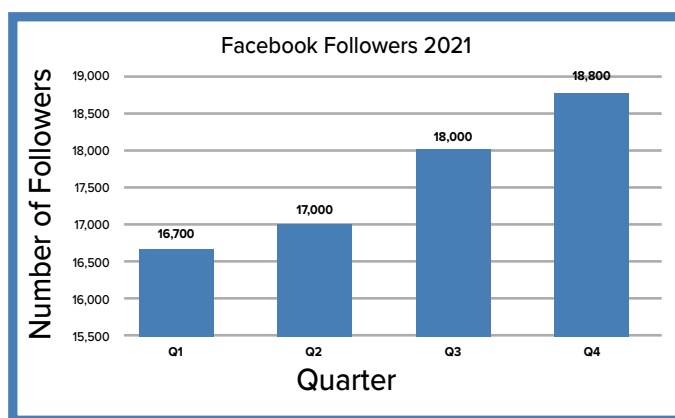
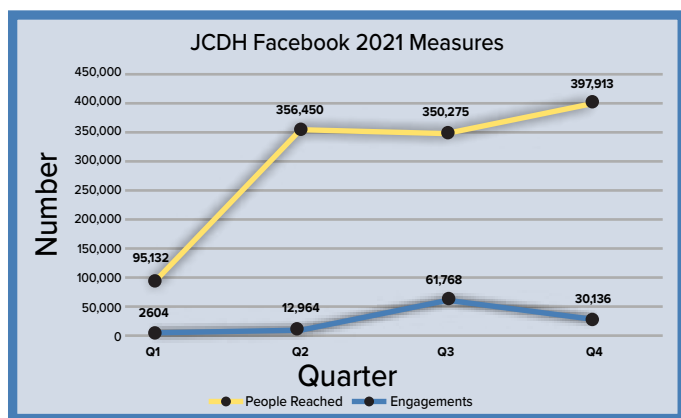
In support of JCDH's ongoing COVID-19 mitigation effort, the Management Information Services (MIS) subdivision assisted with numerous vaccination clinics, both at JCDH and off-site. Staff from the MIS Technical Support section maintained computer and telephone support for employees working from JCDH buildings, an average of 120 employees working remotely each day using a virtual private network (VPN), as well as 50-75 contract staff conducting COVID-19 case investigations and contact tracing. While maintaining cybersecurity awareness and training, multifactor authentication (2FA) was implemented for remote access (VPN) and web-based email enabled a safe hybrid working environment.

Finance and Administration

The MIS Data Management Team and JCDH's Health Equity and Population Health Division continued to build out a near real-time opioid overdose rapid response platform. Numerous Microsoft Power BI Dashboards were created focused on Jefferson County opioid overdose data. Priorities are now shifting toward replicating created dashboards for use in Bibb, Blount, Shelby, St. Clair, Tuscaloosa, and Walker counties. Through collaboration with JCDH Disease Control and the Centers for AIDS Research (CFAR) at Harvard University and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), the Data Management Team continued building a predictive analytic algorithm to identify segments of the Jefferson County community at the highest risk of acquiring new human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections. In addition to assisting the Prevention and Epidemiology subdivision of Disease Control in fighting the spread of COVID-19, the MIS Development Team rolled out several highly impactful systems in 2021, including a rebuilding of the online Employee Request System for internal services and support. The latest version of the request system streamlined aspects of data entry and expanded options for correctly directing requests. A new public-facing Air Pollution Records System was developed and launched enabling community access to decades of publicly available air pollution data. Quick Response (QR) codes were generated for use by JCDH programs, a Clinical Appointment Scheduling System was deployed, and the After Hours Emergency Contact System was revamped for improved web browser support.

Public Relations

As JCDH's COVID-19 response continued throughout 2021, the Public Relations (PR) subdivision provided up-to-date and accurate COVID-19 information internally and externally. PR deployed several strategies and tactics to reach targeted populations reluctant to acquire COVID-19 vaccination which required specific communications and numerous calls to action. PR created and distributed messaging to help control the spread of COVID-19 through continued mask-wearing, vaccination, and social distancing.



Finance and Administration

JCDH relied heavily on social media and crowdsourcing to communicate with residents where they congregate in virtual social spaces during the year. The result was posting of information and coordinating with partners including UAB, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Jefferson County and City of Birmingham governmental leaders, and others to share similar information ultimately reaching diverse audiences.



To reach younger Jefferson County residents, PR created Instagram (jeffcodepthealth) and TikTok social media pages. The Instagram page was first created as a “COVID ain’t it” campaign page in July 2021. Since July, the page has amassed 166 followers with 93 posts. The Instagram page was repurposed from a campaign page to an official JCDH page in late 2021 where general JCDH content is posted. The JCDH TikTok page (@jeffcodepthealth) was created in October 2021 to launch the TikTok Campaign, “Kick COVID,” a challenge to encourage vaccinated individuals to create videos sharing the importance and safety of getting vaccinated against COVID-19. One [submission video](#) received 10,300 views, 1,790 likes and 124 comments.

In addition to social media, PR used both traditional media and non-traditional marketing, including aerial advertising over major sporting events, and coordinated with partners to provide incentives to promote COVID-19 awareness and vaccination. PR negotiated and secured its largest sports marketing campaign with the UAB Football and Basketball Programs as Protective Life Stadium opened for its inaugural season.

JCDH’s Facebook page alone reached 750,093 people in 2021. On August 19, 2021, JCDH shared a news release entitled, [“Health Officer Strongly Recommends Face Coverings for Indoor and Public Spaces.”](#) This post, the top-performing post of the year, reached 164,000 persons and garnered 2,600 likes and reactions, 1,100 comments, 680 shares, and 14,800 link clicks. The JCDH Twitter page (@jcdhtweets) reached a total of 1,061,200 tweet impressions, and 280 new followers were added in 2021. The top-performing tweet was a [video of former news anchors](#) promoting the importance of receiving COVID-19 vaccination posted in June 2021. This post received 42,700 impressions, 7,500 video views, 21 comments, 20 retweets, and 68 likes.



Finance and Administration



Dr. Wilson speaks at Blazer Village

In 2021, PR and JCDH staff fielded nearly 600 media inquiries resulting in 357 media interviews featuring subject matter experts on COVID-19 and JCDH services. PR's Graphic Arts section contributed significantly to each media campaign while ensuring the enormous amount of directional and digital signage used by JCDH was inviting, readable/accessible, and translated into Spanish.

Looking forward toward 2022, JCDH's PR Manager, Chris Osborne, began serving on The 2022 World Games Committee during 2021 to provide consultation on event-related planning and communication internally and externally.

Vital Records

Vital Records, a Finance and Administration subdivision, issued over 99,600 birth, death, and marriage or divorce certificates in 2021.

VITAL RECORD CERTIFICATES ISSUED IN 2021	
CERTIFICATE TYPE	NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES
Death	66,603
Birth	31,054
Marriage	1,596
Divorce	383

Board of Health Actions



Sylvie Stacy, MD, MPH
Chair Emeritus



Hernando Carter, MD,
Chair



Kenny Murray, MD, MPH
General Liability Committee/
Investment Committee



Susan Walley, MD*



Jeffrey Dobyns, DO,
MSHA, MSHQS**



Iris D. Fancher, MD
Secretary



Commissioner Jimmie Stephens

*Resigned July 2021 **Joined October 2021

The Jefferson County Board of Health (Board), the governing body of the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), is comprised of six members: five physicians elected by the Jefferson County Medical Society and the President of the Jefferson County Commission.

The Board approves JCDH's annual budget and all contracts. The Board is authorized to revise or adopt certain public health regulations, endorse policies and legislation promoting health, and take other actions advancing public health. The Board receives regular updates from the Jefferson County Health Officer, presentations from JCDH staff on programs and quality improvement activities, and occasional presentations from external health partners.

Among the 2021 actions of the Board of Health were:

- In February, the Board passed a resolution declaring racism as a public health problem. The resolution reaffirms the Jefferson County Department of Health "Health Equity Guidelines" approved by the Executive Management Team on September 25, 2018, and urges the leadership and staff of JCDH to maintain its commitment to put these guidelines into practice. The resolution also reaffirms JCDH's commitment to health equity in its strategic plan; urges the maintained emphasis on health equity in future strategic plans; reaffirms the priority given to Advancing Health Equity in the current Jefferson County Community Health Improvement Plan; values and encourages diversity and inclusion among the staff and leadership of JCDH; encourages the JCDH Executive Management Team to assure that JCDH management and staff receive training in equity, diversity and inclusion, and affirms existing efforts and encourages future efforts by other

Board of Health Actions

organizations and individuals to confront racism and its adverse effects on health and promote equity in healthcare and in the various social determinants of health.

- Approval of a contract with a consulting firm to provide training and technical assistance for establishing a Jefferson County hospital-based violence intervention program to assist in reducing the impact of gun violence locally.
- Approval of a resolution authorizing JCDH to transfer its portion of a monetary penalty received from a settlement agreement against Drummond/ABC Coke for violations of the Clean Air Act at the byproducts recovery process at the ABC Coke's facility in Tarrant, AL into the Public Health Advised Fund managed by the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham.
- A resolution to adopt Title V Operating Permit Fees for calendar year 2020, payable in 2021, at an increased rate of \$98 per ton of regulated pollution. These fees, required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), fund JCDH's direct and indirect costs related to air pollution monitoring and control such as labor, equipment, and administrative expenses for the larger industrial sources of air pollution for which JCDH issues Title V Operating Permits.
- A resolution authorizing JCDH to transfer funds to the Public Health Advised Fund, managed by the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham, to support the Recovery Resource Center (RRC) of Jefferson County and the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) to further the Board's public health work. The RRC provides a place where people with addiction or their families can receive in-person information, assessment, referral, and peer navigation to help guide individuals to the most appropriate addiction treatment for them. The NFP is a visiting nurse program for first-time, low-income pregnant women designed to reduce maternal and infant mortality, foster healthy infant development, and strengthen families.

Public Health Advised Fund

The Jefferson County Department of Health maintains a funding mechanism through the Public Health Advised Fund (PHAF) of the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham.

The purpose of this funding is to support community health initiatives in the county. During 2021, \$1,471,481 in grant funding was approved and/or distributed for community-based projects led by local organizations including:

- A grant to the Children's Policy Council of Jefferson County for building and retaining intact families through case management services for pregnant and postpartum women affected by substance abuse disorders.

- A grant to the Crisis Center to continue operation of the Recovery Resource Center in assisting individuals and families impacted by opioid addiction navigate the substance abuse treatment system.



- A grant to the Hunger Solutions Institute, to be paid in 2022, to continue and advance the Double Up Food Bucks™ program in Jefferson County. This program matches purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables using Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits up to \$20 dollars per day at participating grocery stores and local farmers' markets.



Nurse educating a first-time mother

- A grant to the UAB School of Nursing for continuation of the Nurse Family Partnership, a nationally recognized home-visiting model for first-time mothers and their children, demonstrated to improve prenatal health, birth outcomes, and child development, as well as reduce childhood adverse events.

Using settlement funds received from a civil penalty of \$387,500 paid by the Drummond Company, Inc. to the Jefferson County Board of Health and transferred to the PHAF, 11 grants were awarded to benefit public health in the City of Tarrant, the North Birmingham community, and the Inglenook community:

- A grant to the Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics for purchasing and distributing books to children from birth to age 5 years through the Reach Out and Read program.



- A grant to Changed Lives Christian Center for purchase of supplies and medication supporting a mobile health clinic serving North Birmingham.

Public Health Advised Fund

- A grant to Christian Service Mission for construction supplies and specialty labor to be used in making repairs to 12 homes in the North Birmingham community.



- A grant to the Freshwater Land Trust for installing trailhead and wayfinding signage and providing benches along the Tarrant Aqueduct Trail within the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System.

- A grant to the Friends Foundation of the Birmingham Public Library for a series of presentations on black women's health issues at the North Birmingham and Inglenook Library branch locations.



- A grant to HUB Worldwide to provide equipment and supplies for the Northern Health Center and Northside Dental Clinic through an ongoing partnership with Alabama Regional Medical Services (ARMS).
- A grant to the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office to extend the Helping Families Initiative (HFI) within the Carver High School feeder pattern and Tarrant City Schools. The HFI partners with schools to identify students with unexcused school absences and suspensions and provides a program to improve family functioning, child well-being, and educational outcomes.
- A grant to the Literacy Council of Central Alabama for implementing a program designed to improve the understanding of health-related information among persons with low literacy through access to a digital platform, educational materials, and program delivery support.
- A grant to Meals on Wheels of Central Alabama to expand the number of senior citizens receiving meal delivery services.
- A grant to Oasis Counseling for Women and Children for providing in-person therapy and teletherapy to low-income women and children experiencing trauma from physical, emotional, or sexual abuse, severe depression and anxiety, and other mental health problems.
- A grant to Sight Savers America to provide students of Tarrant City Schools with health and vision screenings and follow-up case management at no cost to the student and his or her family.



2021 General Financial Information

Revenues (General Fund - \$51,503,853)

1. Ad Valorem Tax Revenue (\$8,653,847 - 17% of General Fund Revenues)

Alabama Act 77-231 provides that the County (and municipalities within the County) shall pay to the Board of Health annually a sum not less than 2% or more than 6% of all ad valorem taxes collected within the County excluding ad valorem taxes collected for the State of Alabama and all Boards of Education located in the County. These funds are forwarded to JCDH as the taxes are collected.

2. Sales Tax Revenue (\$25,959,793 - 50% of General Fund Revenues)

JCDH receives approximately one-fifth of every one cent of Jefferson County sales tax.

3. State and Federal Contracts (\$3,915,979 - 8% of General Fund Revenues)

These are primarily dollars received from the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) resulting from contracts or subcontracts to administer selected public health responsibilities for State Public Health Area 4, Jefferson County. Examples include developing community and educational programs and monitoring activity in nationally identified public health focus areas such as Maternal and Child Health, Family Planning, Immunization, Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, and Hepatitis.

4. Clinical Health Care Revenue (\$6,500,277 - 13% of General Fund Revenues)

This category represents the amount of reimbursement received for all clinic-related services provided by JCDH. These services include pediatric primary care, family planning, and dental care.

Using the Federal Poverty Guidelines, JCDH offers reduced service fees for patients meeting financial and residential guidelines. Approximately 91% of JCDH's reimbursement is obtained from Medicaid, 5% from Blue Cross, and the remaining 4% from all other payers combined (e.g., Medicare, etc.).

5. Environmental Health Services (\$3,654,134 - 7% of General Fund Revenues)

This category represents reimbursement received locally for environmental health services. State law allows fees to be charged for many of the services provided by the Environmental Health Services Division such as restaurant inspections, septic system plans and inspections, air pollution permit fees, open burning permits, radiological equipment inspections, and food handler training.

6. Other Revenue (\$2,819,823 - 5% of General Fund Revenues)

This category is primarily reimbursement received for indirect costs (administration and building overhead) associated with federal grants and contracts such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Air Pollution. Also included are allowable fines levied for violation of public health laws (e.g., air pollution violations), rental fees, parking lot and meter receipts, and fees received for copies of vital records. This category also includes earnings from cash and investments. All JCDH investments are based on a Board of Health approved Investment Policy that strictly follows state and county guidelines.

2021 General Financial Information

Expenditures (General Fund - \$49,308,033)

Expenditures are generally classified by major public health program with administrative costs and the Capital Fund transfer separately identified. General Fund expenditures for fiscal year 2021 include:

Salaries and Benefits	\$35,267,064	72%
Materials and Supplies	\$7,480,838	15%
Contract Services	\$5,360,131	11%
Capital Fund Transfers	\$1,200,000	2%
Total	\$49,308,033	100%

JCDH also has 23 Special Revenue Funds totaling \$45,824,461. Funding is received from federal awards passed through JCDH and designated for activities related to immunization, nutrition, stormwater, emergency preparedness, and air pollution. These funds are operated in accordance with the funding requirements of special grants and appropriations.

Health Statistics, 2020*

Jefferson County's Population by Age (2020 Census Bureau 5-year Estimates)	Age	Number of Residents
	<1 year (estimate)	8,459
	1-14 years	117,398
	15-24 years	82,679
	25-64 years	345,752
	65 years and older	104,327
	Total Population	658,615

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH, 2020 (NUMBER AND RATE OR PERCENT)²

	Number	Jefferson County	Alabama ¹	United States ²
Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	58	7.3	7.0	5.6 (2019 rate)

Note: Infant mortality data is based on live births.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, 2020 (RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION)³

	Jefferson County	Alabama	United States
Chlamydia	778	552	481.3
Gonorrhea	475	294	206.5
Syphilis (primary & secondary)	14.7	10.8	12.7
Tuberculosis (TB)	1.8	1.5	2.2
COVID-19	8,575	7,926	6,047.7

¹ Rates are based on the 2020 American Community Survey 5-year estimates for Jefferson County; www.census.gov

² Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH); www.adph.org

³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); www.cdc.gov

*2021 Selected Health Statistics will be available in the 2022 Annual Report. Due to reporting delays, some 2020 health statistics have not been reported.

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JEFFERSON COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH