



2024

ANNUAL REPORT



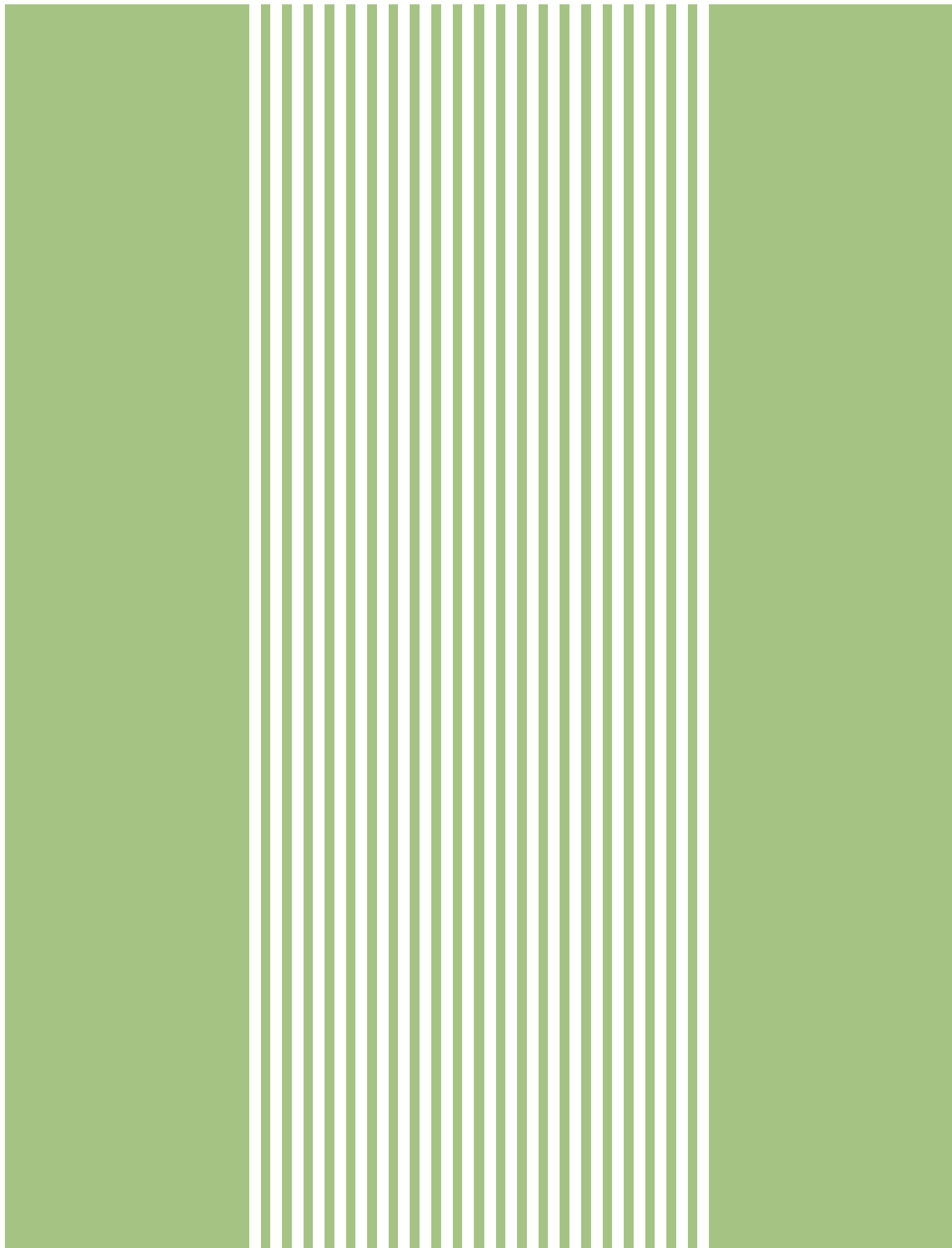
Eastern Health Center



Western Health Center



JEFFERSON COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Jefferson County Board of Health

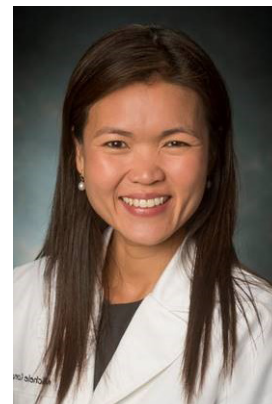
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024



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2024 Health Officer's Letter

“A healthier Jefferson County for all” is the vision statement for the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) and represents its primary objective. In 2024, JCDH increased community outreach and involvement to enhance Jefferson County residents' access to healthcare and public health services. A comprehensive landscape analysis of the county's healthcare services identified gaps in access and service utilization for certain subpopulations and geographic areas. In response to these

findings, JCDH launched a mobile unit to enhance healthcare access in underserved areas of the county, provided blood pressure monitoring at various sites, and increased education and screening for sexually transmitted infections during community events. JCDH also initiated conversations with healthcare partners to collaboratively address healthcare access gaps.

Homicide was a leading cause of death in Jefferson County in 2024, and county residents identified community gun violence as a leading health concern in JCDH's Your Opinion Matters! survey. In May 2024, the Jefferson County Board of Health declared gun violence a public health problem. With this declaration, JCDH supported efforts such as the hospital-linked violence intervention program, firearm safety education, distribution of gun locks, and my participation in Birmingham's Crime Commission to identify evidence-based strategies for reducing community violence. Through increased community outreach and engagement, JCDH aims to reduce violence in the community.

Addressing opioid overdoses remains a challenge, but there was progress in

addressing this health crisis with deaths from overdose decreasing for the first time. The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) visited JCDH to acknowledge the work done by the health department in collaboration with multiple partners. Distribution of naloxone and fentanyl test strips continued throughout the state, and hundreds of people were trained on responding to an overdose.

The health of Jefferson County's environment continues to be a priority for JCDH. In 2024, the National Ambient Air Quality Standards were revised to better protect residents. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recognized JCDH's Food and Lodging Protection subdivision with an honor award for "successful collaboration between local, state, and federal partners in providing outstanding food safety and defense measures" during the 2022 World Games. This same commitment to food safety was demonstrated again this year through JCDH's leadership in ensuring food safety for Major League Baseball events at Rickwood Field. Additionally, a new partnership initiated between Miles College and JCDH's Environmental Health Services Division is enhancing community engagement and environmental health education.

This report highlights JCDH's dedication to achieving "a healthier Jefferson County for all." Achieving a healthier county requires the active participation of Jefferson County residents and the support of many community-based and governmental organizations. Together, it is possible to create a healthier Jefferson County for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Hicks', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Hicks, DO, MPH, FAAFP
Health Officer



Disease Control

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

Prevention and Epidemiology

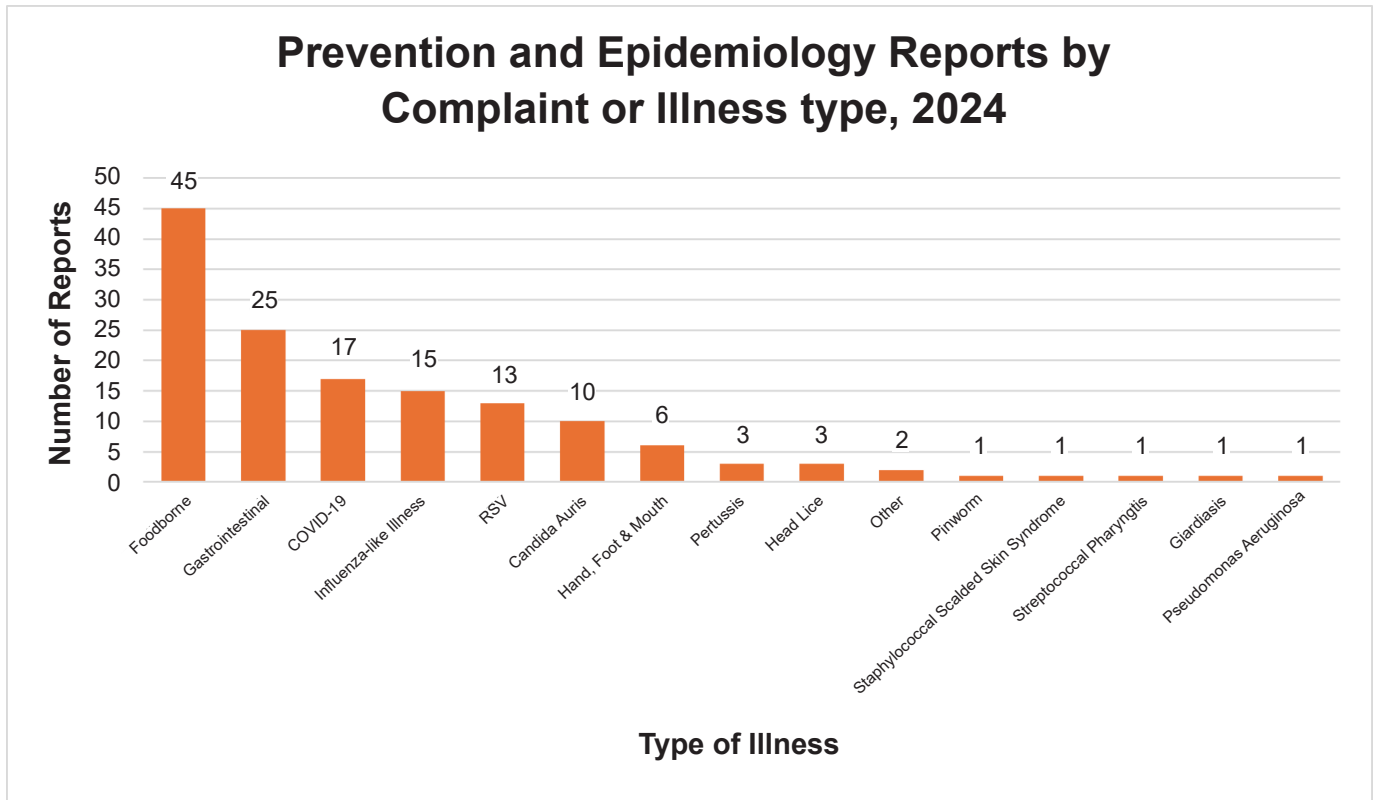
The Prevention and Epidemiology (P&E) Program conducts surveillance and investigation of outbreaks including vaccine-preventable, enteric, vector-borne, zoonotic, emerging or novel, and environmentally-derived illnesses. In addition, this program investigates select multidrug-resistant healthcare-associated infections. P&E educates the community and local providers on disease prevention and reporting notifiable conditions to mitigate the spread of disease in Jefferson County.

P&E receives notification of reportable conditions from mandatory reporters. To increase reporting compliance, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) Detect, Test, and Report (DTR) training was provided by JCDH on when, why, and how to report notifiable conditions to public health authorities. In 2024, 189 mandatory reporters and community members from 67 facilities received this training, representing a 347% increase in the number of facilities receiving this education in 2023.

During 2024, Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) investigated:

- 797 disease-specific reports of notifiable conditions, an 18% increase from 2023; 51% of reports were for investigation of vaccine-preventable diseases
- 45 foodborne illness complaints/reports, an 8% decrease from 2023
- 49 respiratory illness complaints/reports, a 206% increase from 2023
- 31 outbreaks of any other type, a 94% increase from 2023.

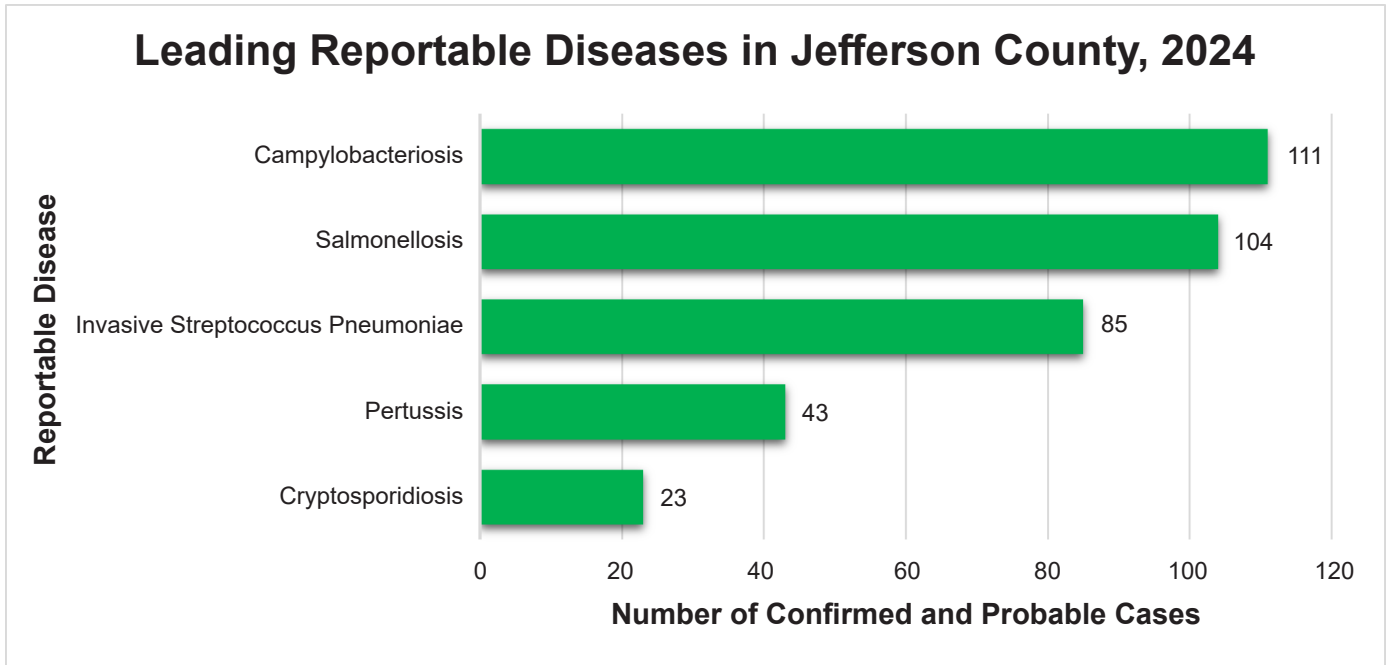
Disease Control



P&E mitigates disease spread through treatment guidance and post-exposure prophylaxis recommendations for healthcare providers, educating cases and case contacts on preventative measures, identifying disease exposures in congregate settings, and providing disease control measures.

Notably, pertussis was the fourth leading reportable disease in Jefferson County in 2024. Nationally, an increase in pertussis cases was detected during the year. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that this increase is likely a result of an expected return to pre-pandemic patterns for pertussis, waning immunity from vaccination, increased disease awareness and testing, and increased circulation of the *Bordetella pertussis* bacteria. In Jefferson County, 74% of the 2024 pertussis cases were associated with schools.

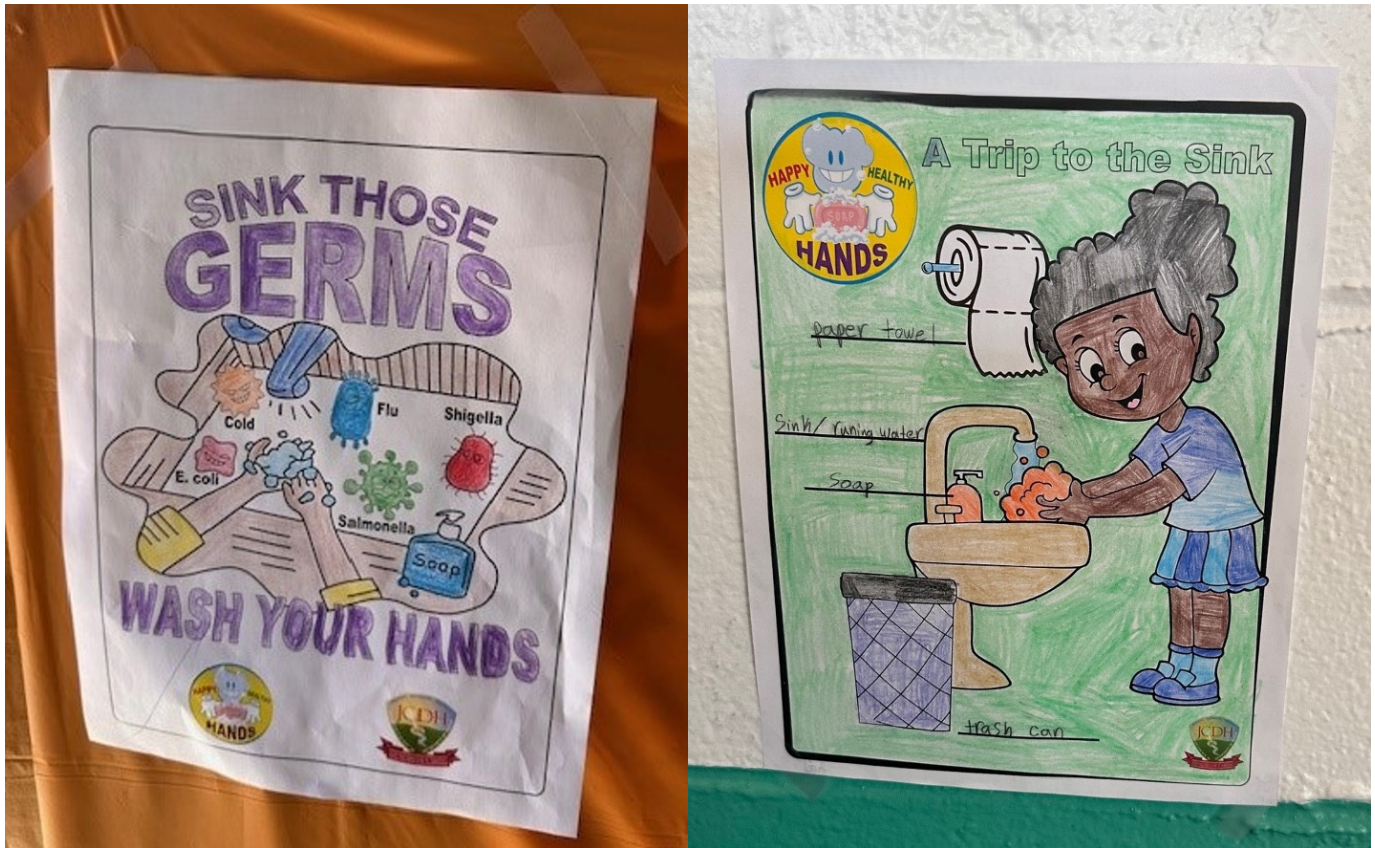
Disease Control



Jefferson County observed significant disease burden from respiratory illnesses, including Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Influenza, and COVID-19 during 2024. As a result, the number of influenza-like illness lab results entered into the Alabama National Electronic Disease Surveillance System increased by 142% from 2023.

Hand washing with soap and water remains a primary method for reducing the spread of communicable illnesses. During 2024, P&E launched Happy, Healthy Hands, a hand hygiene curriculum that teaches children in Pre-K through second grade, when and how to wash their hands properly. In 2024, 299 schools or daycares received information from JCDH regarding the program, and 30 educational sessions reached 97 students.

Disease Control



Displayed artwork from Happy, Healthy Hands participants

In addition to the Happy, Healthy Hands Program, P&E educated Jefferson County residents of all ages during 16 community events, a 7% increase in community events from 2023, engaging 2,343 community members. Community education included food safety, respiratory illness prevention, and proper handwashing. A highlight for participants during community events was the UV light hood and germ simulator lotion used to demonstrate the effectiveness of hand hygiene in reducing germs. Additionally, P&E provided a Lunch and Learn for public health students from the University of Alabama at Birmingham regarding disease investigation and the use of Microsoft Power BI™ for disease analysis and reporting.

Disease Control



Fiesta attendees using the UV light hood with germ simulator lotion and handwashing sink

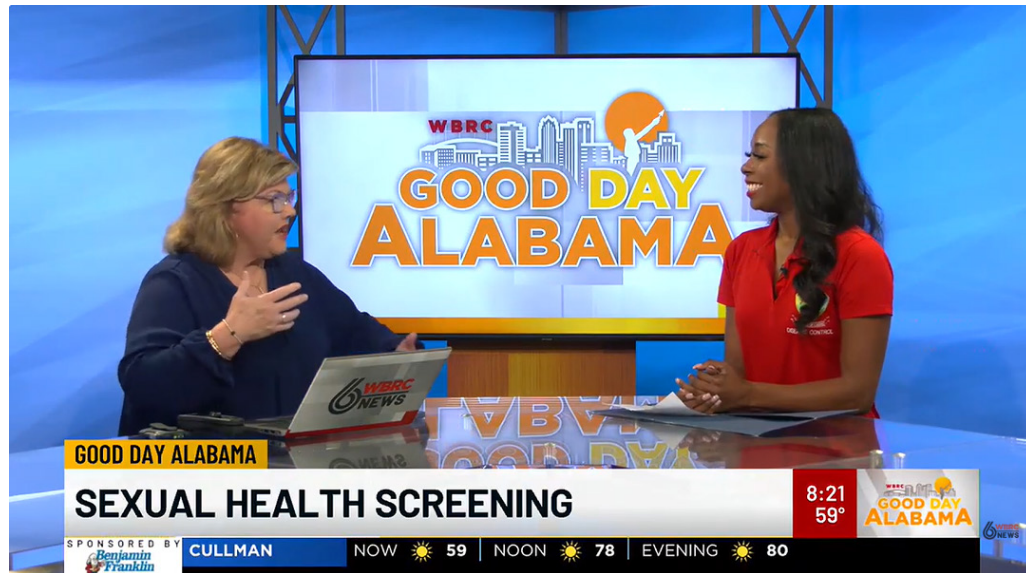
Sexually Transmitted Disease Program

JCDH's Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Program partners with community members and stakeholders to reduce the burden of STDs, also known as sexually transmitted infections (STIs), through education, outreach, surveillance, disease screening, and evidence-based interventions. Surveillance and investigation actions encompass disease monitoring, disease investigation, and the reporting of notifiable conditions, including syphilis and HIV. Early disease detection, prompt treatment, and comprehensive STI prevention strategies for STIs are supported through collaboration with healthcare providers, community-based organizations, and local leaders. Risk-reduction counseling, educational presentations, and training empower community members to make informed health decisions.

In 2024, the STD Program's Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) interacted with more than 7,000 community members during 48 outreach events, including health fairs, presentations,

Disease Control

and training sessions. Tailored educational outreach provided at the Magic City Classic, local high schools, mental health facilities, and through an International Infection Prevention Week presentation sponsored by the Birmingham Veterans Administration (VA) Healthcare System, enhanced awareness of STI prevention and treatment.



Brittany Reynolds, Disease Intervention Specialist, promoting sexual health screening on Good Day Alabama



JCDH and UAB's 1917 PEACE Team at the World AIDS Day Fair



Valencia Cotchery shares how Disease Intervention Specialists protect public Health

Disease Control

The STD Program conducted 13 STI community-based screenings in 2024 supporting early disease detection and treatment. These screenings increased STI testing access for Jefferson County's populations and areas experiencing higher rates of STIs. Screenings were held at all JCDH Health Centers, during 32 deployments of JCDH's Mobile Health Services Unit, and at local colleges and universities; 136 individuals received testing during these screening opportunities.

Gonorrhea cases decreased by almost 16% during 2024 while Chlamydia cases remained stable between 2023 and 2024. Primary and Secondary Syphilis and Early, Non-Primary, Non-Secondary Syphilis declined by eight percent during the year. However, Latent Syphilis cases increased from the prior year by 37.1%.

Seven cases of congenital syphilis were diagnosed in 2024, a 16.7% increase from 2023. Any increase in congenital syphilis is significant due to the serious health consequences related to this disease.

Among the ninety-four individuals newly diagnosed with HIV referred to JCDH, almost 60% completed an HIV treatment appointment within 30 days of diagnosis through efforts of the STD Program. From 2023 to 2024, 22.1% more newly diagnosed HIV cases were referred to JCDH for case management.

Among the 15 mpox investigations conducted during the year, contact tracing decreased the risk of exposure and disease spread.

Utilizing a patient-centered approach, the STD Program completed comprehensive interviews for syphilis, HIV, and enhanced gonorrhea surveillance for 338 individuals providing timely support and treatment referrals. Contact with sexual and needle-sharing partners of infected individuals assisted in interrupting disease transmission.

JCDH Sexually Transmitted Infection Investigations, 2024

Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI)	2024 Number of Investigations	2023 Number of Investigations	Percent Change in Number of Investigations
Gonorrhea	1,947	2,325	16.3% decrease
Chlamydia	5,612	5,654	0.7% decrease
Syphilis (primary & secondary)	248	269	7.8% decrease
Syphilis (early)	198	216	8.3% decrease
Syphilis (late latent)	218	159	37.1% decrease
Syphilis (congenital)	7	6	16.7% decrease
HIV	94	77	22.1% decrease
mpox	15	N/A	N/A

Disease Control

HIV continues to pose significant health challenges for Jefferson County. The STD Program educated residents on HIV prevention and ensured accessible PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) services for Jefferson County residents by simplifying the clinic appointment scheduling process. Comprehensive PrEP training further equipped JCDH staff to support and expand PrEP services. During 2024, nearly 50% more individuals received PrEP education and counseling provided by JCDH than in 2023. PrEP referrals increased by over 100% in 2024, reinforcing the importance of connecting at-risk individuals with preventative care.

PrEP Services by Type, 2024

PrEP Service	2024 Number of Persons Reached	2023 Number of Persons Reached	Percent Change in Number of Persons Reached
Education and Counseling Sessions	275	185	48.6% increase
Referrals for Treatment	166	>80	~107.5% increase

The JCDH PrEP Team, providers, disease intervention specialists, and a social worker participated in the ProvideHER Cohort to improve providers' ability to address the sexual health and HIV prevention needs of Black women through inclusive and responsive care systems. Additionally, the STD Program's Disease Intervention Program Manager completed Coaching for Enhanced Disease Intervention Skills (CEDIS) provided through the CDC and National Network of Public Health Institutes. The STD Program implemented the best practices identified from training programs to enhance disease intervention locally.

Tuberculosis (TB) Program

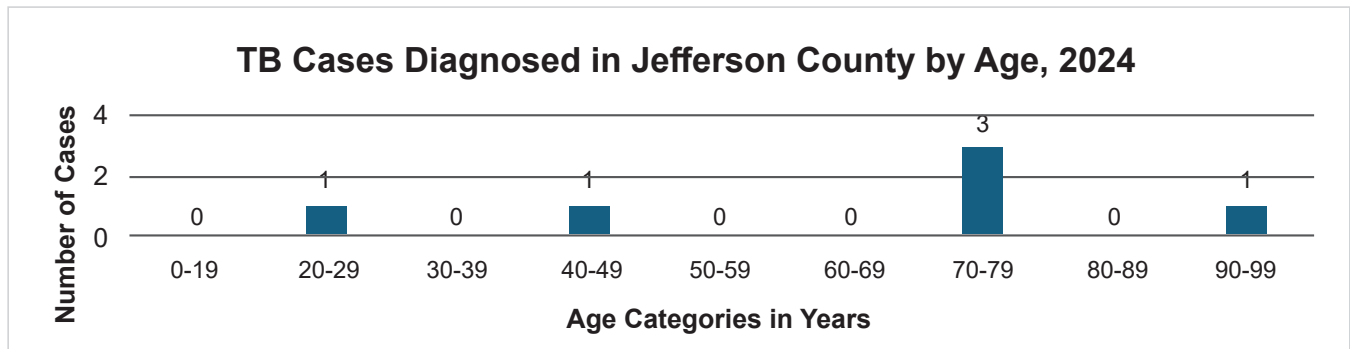
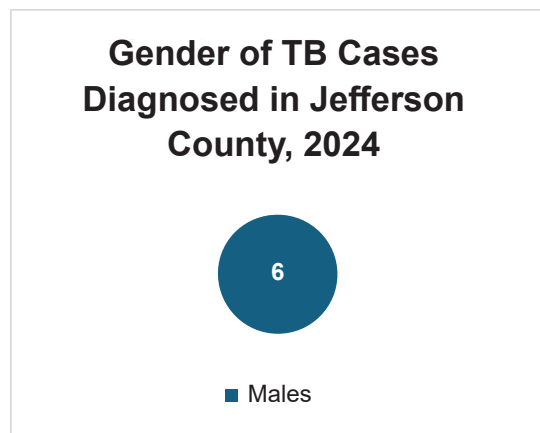
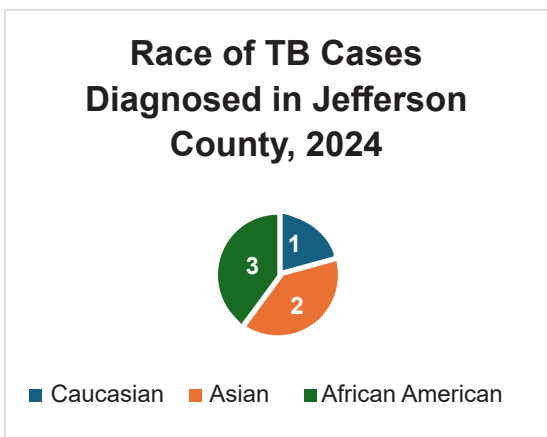
The TB Program protects health by providing services to prevent and treat tuberculosis (TB). The TB Program's overall objective is reducing the TB burden through education, evaluation, and provision of therapy for Jefferson County residents with suspected or confirmed active TB or latent TB infection. Medication for active and suspected TB cases is directly observed to ensure completion of the prescribed course of therapy and to reduce the risk of drug resistance.

Jefferson County experienced a significant decline in active TB cases in 2024. The TB Program managed six active TB cases, a reduction from 11 cases in 2023. Three of the 2024 cases were diagnosed among Jefferson County residents, while the other three cases occurred among individuals who relocated to Jefferson County during treatment. A contact investigation was initiated for each TB case to identify, evaluate, and treat exposed individuals and to prevent the spread of the disease; however, due to the sizable percentage of extra-pulmonary TB cases, the number of case contacts was less than in previous years. During 2024, JCDH identified and screened one contact among people diagnosed with active TB.

Disease Control

On April 14, 2024, ADPH added latent TB infection (LTBI) to its list of notifiable diseases. All people referred to the JCDH Specialty Clinic for LTBI evaluation received screening. Patients diagnosed with LTBI were offered treatment at no cost to them. Investigations completed for LTBI were forwarded to the CDC to support understanding of the disease. In 2024, JCDH's Specialty Clinic evaluated 582 individuals for LTBI and offered medication to 189.

Of the six active TB cases diagnosed in Jefferson County, all were male. Two patients were foreign-born and of Asian descent. The other four patients were born in the United States; one was Caucasian and three were African American. Four patients were elderly, and one was middle-aged. Four of the six cases were extra-pulmonary.



TB Program staff participated in 11 outreach events serving 2,000 individuals in 2024. During these events, 119 T-Spot tests were drawn.

Environmental Health Services

The Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) Environmental Health Services Division includes the Air and Radiation Protection, Community Environmental Protection, Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Food and Lodging Protection subdivisions.

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 sources of air pollution encompassing industrial sources. Area sources of air 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 assessing 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.

Air and Radiation Protection issues daily air quality forecasts for the Birmingham area based on the Air Quality Index (AQI), a color-coded scale displaying the levels of air pollution and associated health effects. JCDH provides fine particle (PM_{2.5}) pollution forecasts year-round; the Alabama Department of Environmental Management forecasts ozone (O₃) levels during the warm season. An "Air Quality Alert" is issued by JCDH when the AQI is expected to be above 100. On "Air Quality Alert" days, the public is encouraged to reduce driving, limit engine idling, refuel vehicles after dusk, and conserve energy.

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.

Environmental Health Services

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.

In 2024, Air and Radiation Protection conducted 119 industrial facility inspections and initiated eight industrial, four asbestos, and eleven open burning enforcement actions to protect health. Staff conducted 528 x-ray facility and 34 tanning facility inspections.

Community Environmental Protection

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

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. CEP conducted a certification course for community pool/spa operators in 2024 with all participants receiving certification. The Watershed Protection section provided 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 and the Valley Creek Cleanup Committee held the 14th Annual Cleanup on the Valley Creek Watershed on August 10, 2024. JCDH staff and 415 volunteers removed 7,284 pounds of trash and debris from the watershed during this event.

JCDH, the Storm Water Management Authority, Inc., and the City of Bessemer and Jefferson County stormwater programs conducted a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on April 13, 2024. JCDH staff and 83 volunteers received 245,237 pounds of waste from 1,479 participants.



Community education helps prevent environmental health concerns

Environmental Health Services

Complaint Investigations, 2024	
COMPLAINT TYPE	NUMBER OF COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS
Sanitation	803
Animal Exposure	760
Onsite Sewage Disposal	253
Water Quality	207

Community Environmental Protection Permits Issued, 2024	
PERMIT TYPE	NUMBER OF PERMITS ISSUED
Mobile Home Park	51
Body Art Facility	48
Solid Waste Transfer Station	2

Inspections, 2024	
INSPECTION TYPE	NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS
Onsite Sewage Disposal	1,825
Pool/Spa	1,823
Industrial Stormwater Runoff	252
Stormwater Samples	234
Garbage Hauler	234
Mobile Home Park	102
Solid Waste Facility	15
Transfer Station	2



Hazardous materials collected during Household Hazardous Waste Day



Valley Creek Cleanup volunteers removed over 7,284 pounds of trash

Environmental Health Services

Emergency Preparedness

In 2024, the Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP) subdivision engaged in a comprehensive, state level Fatality Management Full-Scale Exercise in collaboration with partners including the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), the State Mortuary Operations Response Team (SMORT), the Emergency Management Agencies (EMAs) of Cullman and Marshall Counties, and the Jefferson County Coroner's Office. This exercise assessed and strengthened the Family Assistance Center (FAC), a framework for offering support to and facilitating reunification of families affected by a mass fatality incident. During April 2024, EP participated in a Public Health Networking Reception with the UAB School of Public Health



Photographs from the Fatality Management Full-Scale Exercise



Emergency Preparedness staff providing education



Emergency Preparedness staff at the Just Serve Networking Event

Environmental Health Services



Drone operation training

providing emergency preparedness education. Additional collaborations included participation in the YMCA's JustServe Networking event, drone use training with the Jefferson County EMA, and healthcare provider training on infectious disease preparedness through the Region IV Special Pathogens Training Course.

The Jefferson County Health Care Coalition's (HCC) Communication Project provided critical assistance for two events this year. The HCC purchased radios operated on the Alabama Interoperable Radio System (AIRS) and included specific talk groups programmed by Birmingham 911 to enhance communication between healthcare facilities and public safety entities. The HCC talk groups facilitated internal and external communication during UAB Medical West's relocation on August 3, 2024. A few weeks later, these radios supported communication between Emergency Medical Services (EMS), hospitals, and the Trauma Communications Center (TCC) when TCC phone lines became inoperable. On October 9, 2024, the HCC Leadership Team was placed on alert for potentially receiving hospitalized patients following Hurricane Milton's landfall in Florida. Although federal patient movement did not occur, this alert provided a planning opportunity for a future activation.

Food and Lodging Protection

The Food and Lodging Protection (FLP) subdivision of Environmental Health Services permits, inspects, guides, investigates complaints, and enforces action at food establishments in Jefferson County. Food establishments include restaurants, stores, manufacturers, and institutional kitchens that hold, sell, prepare, or serve food. FLP also regulates lodging and communal living facilities, camps, and childcare centers.

In 2024, FLP developed a new program, the JCDH Green Loop Initiative, supporting sustainable environmental practices such as composting within communities and by food establishments regulated by JCDH. This program provides education, regulatory support and assessment, resource assistance, and fosters partnerships between subject matter experts, community leaders, and



Environmental Health Services

local organizations. In collaboration with Miles College and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Green Loop Initiative participants learned methods for reducing food waste and composting food scraps during workshops and community events.

Rickwood Field, the oldest professional ballpark in the United States and former home of the Birmingham Black Barons, hosted a three-day Major League Baseball (MLB) event during July. FLP monitored the receipt, storage, preparation, and service of food provided to athletes, vendors, and event attendees. Additionally, FLP continued its coordinated efforts assessing food safety operations at the Magic City Classic resulting in a 90% rate of permitted vendors.

JCDH's food safety training program transitioned from issuing food safety cards documenting successful completion of training to providing certificates featuring QR codes for training verification. This change enhances the flexibility and efficiency of the Food Handlers' and Food Safety Managers' courses.

FOOD AND LODGING PROTECTION OPERATIONAL DATA, 2024	
FOOD PERMITS/ESTABLISHMENTS BY TYPE	NUMBER OF PERMITS ISSUED
Food Service Establishment	1,826
Limited Food Service	903
Temporary Food Service Vendor	404
Mobile Food Vendor	324
Limited Retail Food Store	312
Childcare Center (food permit)	234
Bar and Lounge	180
Public School Lunchroom	164
Ballpark Concession Stand	153
Food Processor	85
Nursing Home Kitchen	50
Elder Feeding Site	32
Private School Lunchroom	28
Other Institutional Kitchen	17
Hospital Kitchen	14
Charitable Non-permitted Food Establishment	11
Jail and Prison Food Service	5
Summer Feeding Site	2
Total Permitted (Food)	4,952
OTHER FACILITY PERMITS BY TYPE	
Childcare	297
Hotel/Motel	132
Communal Living	38
Camp	34
Other Facilities Total	501
TOTAL PERMITTED FACILITIES	5,453

Environmental Health Services

INSPECTIONS, 2024	
FACILITY TYPE	NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS
Food	12,159
Childcare	306
Lodging (hotel/motel)	126
Communal Living	44
Camp	14
TOTAL INSPECTIONS	12,649

COMPLAINT MANAGEMENT, 2024	
Total Complaints Received	640
Total Complaint Investigations	941

OTHER SERVICES, 2024	
	NUMBER OF EVENTS
Temporary Food Events	91

FOOD SAFETY EDUCATION, 2024	
FOOD HANDLER TRAINING	ATTENDEES
Online Training	11,890
In-person Training at JCDH	548
Satellite Training (Off-Site)	155
Training Manuals (sold for in-house training)	5,261
CERTIFIED MANAGER TRAINING	ATTENDEES
Certified Managers-in-Training	78
Certified Manager Certificates	130
TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAINED ATTENDEES	12,801



Finance and Administration

The Finance and Administration Division of the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) includes Accounting, Central Billing Office, General Services, Human Resources, Management Information Systems, Public Relations, and Vital Records.

Central Billing Office

The Central Billing Office (CBO) conducts medical and dental billing for 11 locations and credentials JCDH providers with payers for billing purposes. CBO manages billing-related calls from patients, payers, and internal staff. CBO assists JCDH staff with payer requirements related to capturing insurance information, coding directives, and patient checkout processes.

General Services

General Services provides facilities management for 16 JCDH properties including renovation, remodeling, maintenance, custodial services, safety and security, landscaping, and grounds upkeep. General Services also conducts the operations and activities of the Print Shop and Record Management.

Key projects initiated or completed in 2024 included:

- Execution of a contract to construct medical isolation exam rooms in three JCDH facilities
- Completion of construction of the JCDH Annex Pavilion
- Installation of ten Level 2 electric vehicle chargers for reducing use of fossil fuel and increasing use of renewable energy within JCDH operations
- Execution of a contract with Birmingham Recycling and Recovery providing recycling pickup for JCDH facilities to support environmental sustainability.

Human Resources

In 2024, 65 employees and 16 interns were hired and onboarded by Human Resources (HR). Additionally, 14 retirement applications were processed. JCDH's annual Employee Team Building Experience, planned by HR and conducted in October 2024, promoted employee cross-collaboration and team building. Annual compliance and privacy training coordinated through HR supported staff knowledge and performance. Supervisory level staff completed refresher training on effective team leadership coordinated by HR. Topics included in this team leadership training included reporting harassment, avoiding retaliation, accountability, and documentation.

HR conducted an employee engagement survey assessing employee opinions regarding JCDH, its leadership, and individual staff positions. The survey results were positive overall and included 89% of survey respondents indicating work at JCDH is meaningful.

The Risk Management subdivision of Human Resources continuously evaluated the safety of JCDH's facilities, assets, and processes. Facility evacuation drills and safety-related information promoted a healthy and safe work environment.



Finance and Administration

Management Information Services (MIS)

This year, MIS managed the rollout of Microsoft Office 365® organization-wide. Implementation of a real-time Security Operations Center (SOC) enhanced the prevention and early detection of cyberattacks. Using Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) funding, the MIS Data Engineering Team delivered an online, “near” real-time opioid overdose rapid response platform providing critical data for addressing opioid overdoses in all 67 counties in Alabama. The MIS Development Team also implemented new iOS applications.

Public Relations

Public Relations (PR) staff developed and evaluated strategic communication initiatives for effectively serving JCDH stakeholders using radio, television, print, and digital platforms such as social media, geofencing, and podcasts.

PR coordinated the introduction of Dr. David Hicks as Jefferson County's new Health Officer. Development and implementation of a new Wellness Wednesday segment on radio station V94.9 featuring Dr. Hicks aired twice a month to increase community access to health information. PR facilitated Dr. Hicks' “State of Health in Jefferson County” address at the Birmingham Business Alliance (BBA) and during a joint function with the UAB School of Public Health.

PR supported JCDH's community outreach through sharing information on health and JCDH services during community events such as the Major League Baseball game at Rickwood Field, Fiesta, The Magic City Classic, and BabyPalooza. Additionally, the PR Team responded to hundreds of media requests, online social media and website inquiries, and special event requests while providing communication-related support for JCDH and selected partners.



Healthcare Services

Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) delivers healthcare services at Eastern Health Center (EHC), Central Health Center (CHC), Western Health Center (WHC), and through the Mobile Health Services Unit. JCDH provides an array of clinical services including pediatric, dental, and select types of specialty care, case management, social services, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). In 2024, 36,199 individuals received healthcare and supportive services through 86,504 encounters in JCDH's clinics, on the Mobile Health Services Unit, or during community events.

Call Center

JCDH operates a centralized call center for disseminating information and scheduling appointments. Registered Nurses triage caller needs and provide health guidance and appointment support. The Call Center responded to 153,963 calls and scheduled 55,170 appointments over the year. Additionally, the Call Center provided education on whooping cough (pertussis), mpox, measles (rubeola), Herpes Simplex Virus testing, international travel, adult immunizations, religious exemption for vaccination, rabies exposure, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

Patients may also schedule certain types of appointments online. JCDH's Family Planning Clinics added a self-scheduling option for annual exams and supply visits resulting in 802 appointments scheduled online. The Sexual Health Clinics had 2,434 self-scheduled appointments during the year.

Child Health

In 2024, Child Health provided care to 14,303 patients, a 15% increase in unduplicated patients from 2023, during 31,391 clinic visits. In coordination with Reach Out and Read, a program championing the positive effects of shared reading and other language-rich activities with young children, JCDH provided more than 5,000 age-appropriate books to children from age six months to five years during well-child visits.

Through an ongoing partnership with the JBS Mental Health Authority, Child Health referred 129 patients for evaluation and care this year.

Childhood Vaccination

Vaccines can prevent common diseases that may seriously harm or kill infants, children, and adults. Alabama law establishes vaccination requirements for school-age children attending public, private, parochial, and other types of schools in the state. Up-to-date childhood vaccination rates for JCDH's pediatric clinic patients exceeded the same rates for children and adolescents in Jefferson County as a whole and in Alabama.

Healthcare Services

Vaccination Data for Children Ages 19-48 Months, 2024			
Clinic/Location	Number of Patients	Number of Up to Date for Vaccine Series	Percentage of Patients Up to Date with Vaccinations
JCDH Central Health Clinic	978	808	83%
JCDH Eastern Health Clinic	1,001	734	73%
JCDH Western Health Clinic	821	668	81%
JCDH Total	2,800	2,210	79%
Jefferson County	25,435	15,936	63%
Alabama	165,029	10,645	65%

Vaccination Data for Children Ages 4-10 Years, 2024			
Clinic/Location	Number of Patients	Number of Up to Date for Vaccine Series	Percentage of Patients Up to Date with Vaccinations
JCDH Central Health Clinic	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
JCDH Eastern Health Clinic	4,010	3,017	75%
JCDH Western Health Clinic	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
JCDH Total	4,010	3,017	75%
Jefferson County	62,575	43,036	69%
Alabama	475,863	315,172	66%

Vaccination Data for Children Ages 11-13 Years, 2024			
Clinic/Location	Number of Patients	Number of Up to Date for Vaccine Series	Percentage of Patients Up to Date with Vaccinations
JCDH Central Health Clinic	2,249	926	41%
JCDH Eastern Health Clinic	1,723	732	42%
JCDH Western Health Clinic	1,691	813	48%
JCDH Total	5,663	2,471	44%
Jefferson County	35,325	7,793	22%
Alabama	238,278	43,053	18%

Healthcare Services

Vaccination Data for Children Ages 14-18 Years, 2024			
Clinic/Location	Number of Patients	Number of Up to Date for Vaccine Series	Percentage of Patients Up to Date with Vaccinations
JCDH Central Health Clinic	2,648	1,418	54%
JCDH Eastern Health Clinic	2,848	1,512	53%
JCDH Western Health Clinic	2,508	1,466	58%
JCDH Total	8,004	4,396	55%
Jefferson County	65,123	22,212	34%
Alabama	443,191	119,025	27%

Alabama law provides exemptions for school vaccination requirements for children entering kindergarten through 12th grade. In 2024, JCDH issued 386 Certificates of Religious Exemption, a six percent increase from 2023 and a 30% increase from 2022.

Dental Health

During 2024, JCDH Dental Clinics served nearly 4,700 patients through 9,300 clinic visits at Central, Eastern, and Western Health Centers. Dental Health's staff provided oral health education within the community including for pregnant women in JCDH's From Day One Program. JCDH provided more than 1,000 dental screenings for students in the Birmingham City Schools' Early Learning Program and Jefferson County Child Development Council's Pre-K Program. This service enabled students to interact with healthcare workers in a community setting while receiving oral health assessments to identify dental health needs.

Dental Health staff participated in community events in 2024 including Fiesta, the Miles College Health Care Expo, and the Miles College Career Day. Education on oral health, nutritional choices, the importance of regular dental care, JCDH Dental Clinics, and careers in dental health were shared during these events.



Dental Health staff providing education

Family Planning

Family Planning services are offered at Central, Eastern, and Western Health Centers and designated community sites through JCDH's Mobile Health Services Unit. In 2024, JCDH's Family Planning Clinics provided care to 6,078 unduplicated patients during 11,667 encounters, representing a five percent increase in unduplicated patients from 2023. This year, a new birth control option, Kyleena®, an intrauterine device (IUD), and colposcopy services were provided.

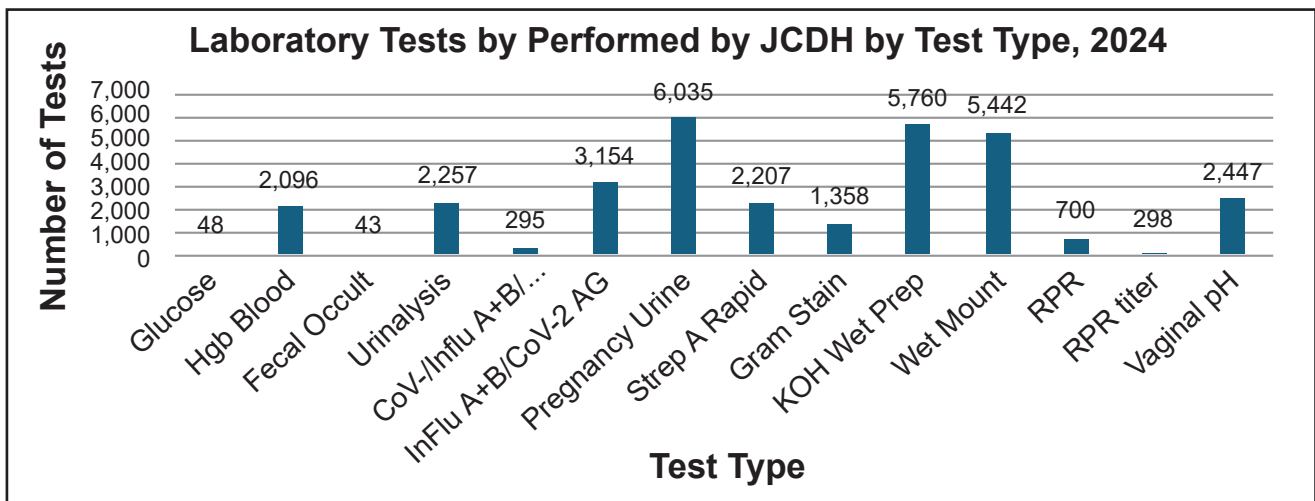
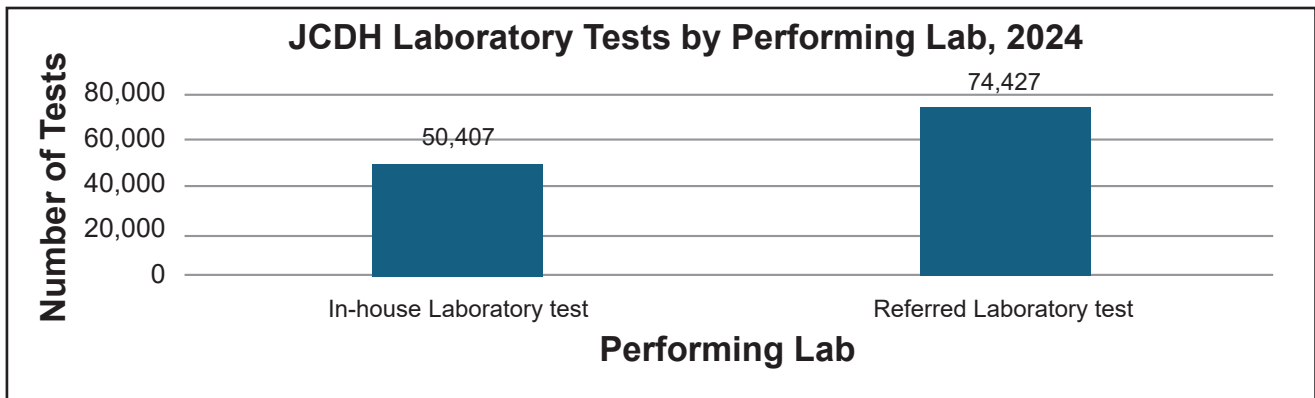
A project funded by the Alabama Department of Health (ADPH) for improving Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination rates by providing the HPV vaccine at no cost to patients was completed

Healthcare Services

in December 2024. As a result of this project, over 1,000 doses of HPV vaccine were given to eligible patients.

Laboratory Services

Navigating the complex healthcare landscape of regulatory requirements and operating margins includes the coordination of in-house and referred laboratory testing. The JCDH Clinical Laboratory Team orchestrated a combination of in-house and referred laboratory tests to meet patient needs. In 2024, in conjunction with ADPH, LabCorp, Children's of Alabama, Quest Diagnostic, and Oxford Diagnostic laboratories, JCDH's Clinical Laboratory and Electronic Medical Records staff provided timely specimen collection and reporting of over 124,000 laboratory tests. Approximately 40% of the 2024 test volume was performed internally by JCDH laboratory staff.





Healthcare Services

Language Access

JCDH provides language access for non-English speaking residents of Jefferson County related to JCDH services. JCDH facilitated 80,355 language access encounters for the 2024 clinical and non-clinical services provided by JCDH. Interpretation services were most commonly provided for patients and clients speaking Spanish, French, German, Portuguese, Q’anjob’al, and Romanian. Translation assistance was provided in 29 languages including Arabic, American Sign Language (ASL), Dari, Somali, Ukrainian, Tigrinya, Farsi, Rohingya, Haitian Creole, and others.

Mobile Health Services Unit

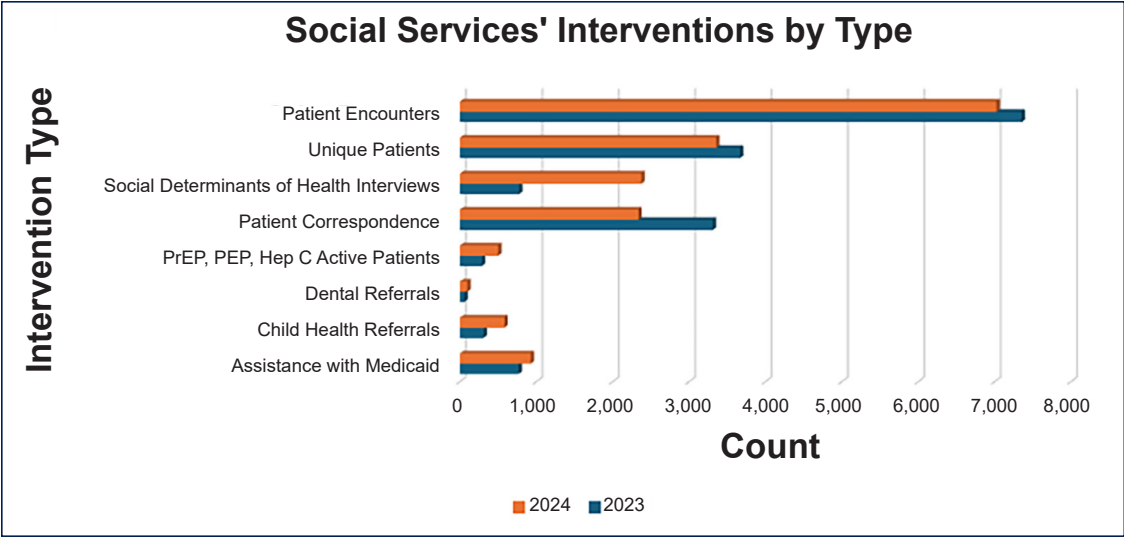
The JCDH Mobile Health Services Unit provides select JCDH services beyond its health centers. Ninety-three deployments of the mobile unit, representing 392 patient encounters, were conducted during 2024. The Mobile Health Services Unit provided education and services at Fiesta, Mi Pueblo, The Foundry Ministries, and multiple Housing Authority of Birmingham District locations.

In July 2024, the Mobile Health Services Unit deployed to Butler County to assist ADPH in avoiding public health service interruption after a fire destroyed the Butler County Health Department’s building.

Social Services

Social Services identifies and addresses factors impacting the health of JCDH’s patients. Income, transportation, safety, education, and access to nutritious foods significantly influence health decision-making and health outcomes. Licensed Social Workers and Registered Nurses offer patient-centered care empowering individuals and families to achieve better health and well-being. In 2024, JCDH collaborated with over 35 community partners and internal support systems to address needs.

Social Services’ nurse case managers conducted 617 risks assessments and made 2,051 referrals addressing insurance, healthcare, and socio-medical needs. Social workers additionally





Healthcare Services

conducted needs assessments and made 2,002 essential community referrals for food, infant supplies, utility assistance, specialty care, and in-home education. Social Services supported JCDH's Child Health Program by conducting 478 newborn safety assessments. Social Services collaborated with ADPH and submitted care plans for childhood lead poisoning prevention and newborn hearing screenings for 42 patients.

Social Services coordinated patient care for JCDH's Specialty Clinics and assisted patients in enrolling in pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), and hepatitis C programs. Additionally, providing sexual health information, monitoring treatment adherence, and completion of medication assistance applications supported patient care. During 2024, Social Services provided 62 patient encounters, 149 insurance verifications, 60 patient telephone consultations, 85 patient electronic correspondences, and 100 medication visits for the Specialty Clinic.

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

WIC is a federal public health nutrition program designed to provide short-term interventions and influence lifetime nutrition and health behaviors in targeted, high-risk populations including:

- Pregnant women
- Breastfeeding women
- Women who have had a baby within the previous six months
- Infants
- Children under the age of five years.

WIC services were provided at Central, Eastern, and Western Health Centers. In fiscal year (FY) 2024, the average WIC caseload was 12,056 patients, a 4% decrease from FY 2023. The average percentage of WIC participants redeeming benefits was 93% during FY 2024, representing a 7% increase from FY 2023. In 2024, the breastfeeding initiation rate among eligible Jefferson County WIC participants remained at 65%. Breastfeeding Peer Counselors served WIC clients at all JCDH Health Centers.

Formula shortages continued over the year and often required WIC participants to change formula types or utilize formulas distributed from JCDH Clinics. For some clients, temporary waivers provided alternative sizes of contract formulas to ensure nutritional needs were met.

WIC program information and nutrition education were provided at a Head Start Parent and an Alabama Wellness Alliance meeting. Other educational outreach included eight meetings with pediatric residents regarding WIC services, three From Day One Baby Safety Showers, six events at Head Start locations, letters to local pediatricians' offices, and staffed tables at BabyPalooza, Fiesta, and National Breastfeeding and Fruit and Vegetables Month activities.

Healthcare Services

Specialty Clinics

JCDH's Specialty Clinics provide confidential testing, diagnosis, and treatment for suspected or known infectious diseases including tuberculosis (TB), sexually transmitted infections (STIs) including gonorrhea, chlamydia, trichomoniasis, hepatitis C virus (HCV), and mpox. Other services include pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for prevention of HIV, adult immunizations for vaccine-preventable diseases, religious exemption for the vaccination of school-age children, and consultations, medications, and immunizations for individuals planning international travel. In 2024, there were 20,890 visits to the Specialty Clinics and encounters during community screenings that served 13,840 unique people.



JCDH Specialty Clinic staff

The Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic provides consultation, diagnosis, and treatment for active and latent TB, directly observed therapy, x-ray services, and TB testing, including TB skin tests. The 2024 activity counts included 2,551 patients evaluated and/or treated for TB, 456 medication dispensing visits, and 567 x-rays performed.

Adult immunizations, including hepatitis A and B, inactive polio, measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR), meningococcal A, C, Y, meningococcal B, pneumococcal 23, tetanus, tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (TdAP), varicella, HiB, and rabies vaccines were offered. This year, 348 unique patients received vaccines in the Adult Vaccine Clinic.

JCDH's International Travel Clinic provides travel consultations and immunizations for vaccine-preventable diseases common in areas outside of the United States. Travel-specific vaccines offered include yellow fever, typhoid, and Japanese encephalitis based on the travel destination. The International Travel Clinic conducted 2,653 patient visits during 2024.

The Specialty Clinic offers sexual health services through the Sexual Health Clinics at all JCDH Health Centers. During the year, the 15,686 visits to the Sexual Health Clinics included:

- 11,334 examinations performed by advanced practice providers
- 3,785 visits for STI treatment
- 1,358 testing only visits completed by Registered Nurses
- 931 diagnosed cases of trichomoniasis
- 855 diagnosed cases of chlamydia
- 629 diagnosed cases of gonorrhea.



Healthcare Services

In response to the increase in syphilis cases in Jefferson County, the Sexual Health Clinics streamlined visit requirements to improve adherence to medication regimes while maintaining quality of care. The Sexual Health Clinics conducted 636 visits for diagnoses related to syphilis, 498 syphilis treatment visits, and managed 200 active syphilis cases.

While the overall incidence of mpox in Alabama was low this year, the Sexual Health Clinics evaluated 20 individuals for mpox disease and provided 99 doses of Jynneos® (mpox vaccine).

In 2024, JCDH observed a slight decrease in individuals requesting testing and treatment for chronic hepatitis C. Fifty-one patients received evaluation for this disease, and 31 visits were completed for active hepatitis C management.

The Sexual Health Clinics provided preventative services for HIV and STIs. A 43% increase in the number of individuals receiving PrEP to reduce sexually acquired HIV-1 infection risk was observed in 2024. The 110 unique patients receiving PrEP represented 248 clinical encounters. An additional 29 clinical visits occurred for PEP, a combination of medications to prevent HIV infection after exposure.

DoxyPEP, a post-exposure prophylaxis for STIs, was offered through the Sexual Health Clinic beginning in 2024. In several studies, DoxyPEP reduced the risk of gonorrhea by 55-60% and decreased the likelihood of developing chlamydia and syphilis by 80% or more. During 2024, 155 visits for DoxyPEP were completed.

Quality Improvement And Decision Support

The Quality Improvement and Decision Support (QIDS) Division provides assessment, planning, and evaluation services for internal and external operations of the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH). Additionally, QIDS leads JCDH's quality improvement and performance management programs and is the administrator of Violence Intervention & Prevention Partners, a hospital-linked violence intervention program.

In 2024, QIDS continued to develop and track, with community agencies, the goals, strategies, tactics, and metrics for 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.

In collaboration with UAB Hospital's Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Service and the Offender Alumni Association, implementation of Violence Intervention & Prevention Partners (VIP²), the first hospital-linked violence intervention program (HVIP) in Alabama continued. HVIPs are an evidence-based strategy for reducing violence using a multi-disciplinary approach to link patients experiencing community violence to needed support. Clients receive linkage to community-based resources and intensive trauma-informed case management addressing the underlying risk factors for repeat and retaliatory violence. VIP² served 137 individuals between the ages of 16 and 70 years of age between program inception in early 2023 through December 2024. Re-injury and retaliation measures for VIP² demonstrate the program's effectiveness in helping break the cycle of violence.



Supporting community-responsive public transportation, the Via B'ham micro transit initiative that began in January 2024 for increasing area zone coverage, resulted in a 70% increase in Via B'ham On-Demand ridership in its Eastern zone. The Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority (BJCTA) launched the second phase of its 70/30 bus route redesign plan for converting 30% of its current transit system to microtransit in 2024 by providing on-demand transportation and assistance with first and last mile travel connections. In partnership with Lyft, the United Way of Central Alabama's Lyft Ride United initiative provided over 900 rides for medical purposes. The City of Birmingham's street resurfacing projects continued during the year resulting in 15 Complete Streets projects concluded and enhanced street accessibility for all users.

QIDS staff continued to serve on the Alabama Wellness Alliance and supported implementation of

Quality Improvement And Decision Support



the Alabama Physical Activity and Nutrition Plan to reduce obesity in Alabama. Access to mental health services increased during 2024 through in-person and telehealth services. In addition, the Jefferson County Department of Health conducted a feasibility study with local mental health partners regarding implementing an online resource for mental health screenings, information, and direct service access. The program is expected to launch in 2025.

The Let's Get Down 35211: A High Blood Pressure Management Program re-launched in February 2024 following a suspension during the COVID-19 pandemic. The program provides blood pressure self-monitoring kiosks in three churches and the West End Library within the 35211 ZIP code. Let's Get Down 35211 offers residents the ability to track blood pressure readings, receive evidence-based lifestyle change information for controlling high blood pressure, and resources for attaining medical care.

QIDS collaborated with JCDH's Prevention and Epidemiology subdivision to provide analytic support for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Gonococcal Isolates Surveillance Project. QIDS created and analyzed data from multiple internal surveys to support decision making and evaluate the impact of programs. Included in these analyses were a local needs assessment for the Overdose Data to Action program, the 2024 Household Hazardous Waste Day survey, and customer satisfaction surveys for multiple sexually transmitted infection screening events.

Quality Improvement and Decision Support continued its county-wide assessment of population health through the creation, dissemination, and analysis of data from the Your Opinion Matters! Survey conducted in English and Spanish. Analysis of data from over 1,400 respondents indicated mental health conditions and lack of access to mental health services, neighborhood safety/community crime levels/gunshot injuries, child abuse and neglect, and addiction are the leading health concerns for residents of Jefferson County and their families. Data from the Your Opinion Matters! Survey will be combined with other quantitative and quality data collected by QIDS regarding Jefferson County and its residents to create a new community health assessment.

Quality improvement activities conducted in 2024 included ongoing data analysis to inform improvements in the new employee orientation and an initiative to increase access to care through self-scheduled appointments in JCDH's Sexual Health Clinics. During 2024, QIDS collaborated with the UAB School of Public Health to provide JCDH leaders with the CDC-developed Evidence-based Public Health Training Course.

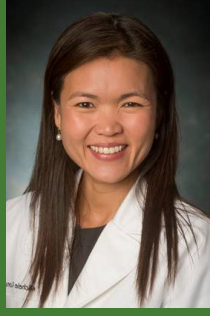
Board of Health Actions



Iris Fancher, MD,
FAAP Chair



Jeffrey Dobyns,
DO, MHSQS, FASA



Michele Kong,
MD, MBA,
General Liability



Elizabeth Turnipseed,
MD, MSPH, FACP,
Claims Committee/
Investment Committee



Weily Soong, MD
Secretary



Commissioner
Jimmie Stephens

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, David Hicks, DO, MPH, presentations from JCDH staff on programs and quality improvement activities, and occasional presentations from external public health partners.

Among the actions of the Board of Health during 2024 were:

Title V Permit Fee – April 10, 2024

The Board passed a resolution to adopt Title V Operating Permit Fees for calendar year 2023, payable in 2024, at an increased rate of \$105 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.

Gun Violence as a Public Health Problem – May 8, 2024

The Board passed a resolution declaring gun violence as a public health problem, citing that at least 42 persons in Jefferson County had died from gun violence as of April 21, 2024. The Board of Health authorized the provision and distribution of gun locks at no charge to residents of Jefferson County as part of its ongoing commitment to community health and safety.



Board of Health Actions

Continuity of Operations Plan and Emergency Order of Succession for the Health Officer - July 10, 2024

The Board approved the JCDH Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and order of succession for the Health Officer to ensure uninterrupted public health operations during emergencies.

Air Pollution Control Rules and Regulations Revisions – August 14, 2024

The Board passed a resolution to adopt revisions to the Air Pollution Control Rules and Regulations as certified by the Health Officer. These revisions align with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) requirements.

American Diabetes Association Grant – September 11, 2024

The Board authorized a grant of \$25,000 to the American Diabetes Association in support of the “ADA Project Power Impact” initiative. This program educates youth at risk for diabetes on health-promoting behaviors with the goal of enhancing overall health outcomes.

Public Health Advised Fund

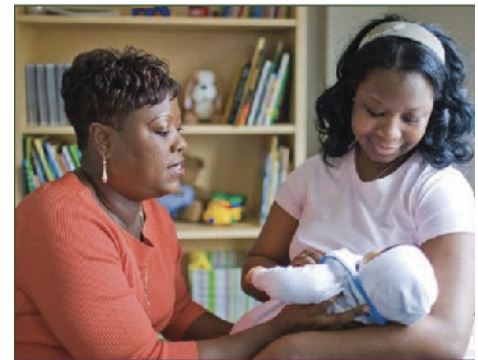
The Jefferson County Department of Health maintains a funding mechanism through the Public Health Advised Fund (PHAF) of the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham. During 2024, \$1,006,031 in grant funding was approved and/or distributed for community-based projects led by local organizations including:

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



- A grant to YMCA Birmingham for filling gaps in family services for the Latino community.

- A grant to the University of Alabama at Birmingham 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.



Nurse educating a first-time mother

- A grant to No More Martyrs, doing business as The Women's Mental Health Institute, providing scholarships for Jefferson County residents and mental health clinicians attending the 2024 Mental Health Equity and Liberation Summit and covering speaker expenses.

- Installment of grant funding to the Hunger Solutions Institute for continuation of 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 \$10 per day at participating grocery stores and \$20 per day at local farmers' markets.



Public Health Advised Fund

- A grant to the Spring Valley School Foundation to support comprehensive wellness for students with learning disabilities through the development and use of social and emotional skills.
- A grant to the Historic Bethel Baptist Church Community Restoration Fund to support senior citizens and college/university students in attending a conference entitled, “Balm in Gilead: Healing from the Events of 1963.”
- A grant to the Mother’s Milk Bank of Alabama supporting the organization’s physical relocation enabling expanded provision of human donor breast milk and breastfeeding services for critically ill infants and under-resourced breastfeeding mothers.



2024 General Financial Information

Revenues (General Fund - \$59,807,849)

1. Ad Valorem Tax Revenue - \$9,937,732 (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 - \$28,347,679 (47% of General Fund Revenues)

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

3. State and Federal Contracts - \$2,775,934 (5% 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/Child Health, Family Planning, Immunization, Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, and Hepatitis.

4. Clinical Health Care Revenue - \$8,480,641 (14% 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 87% of JCDH's reimbursement is obtained from Medicaid, 5% from Blue Cross, and the remaining 8% from all other payers combined (e.g., Medicare, etc.).

5. Environmental Health Services - \$6,481,262 (11% 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 - \$3,784,601 (6% 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.

2024 General Financial Information

Expenditures (General Fund - \$51,621,468)

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 2024 include:

Expense Categories		
Salaries and Benefits	\$38,917,007	75%
Materials and Supplies	\$7,734,934	15%
Contract Services	\$3,769,527	8%
Capital Fund Transfers	\$1,200,000	2%
Total	\$51,621,468	100%

JCDH also has 16 Special Revenue Funds expected to total approximately \$33.5 million. Funding is received from federal awards passed through JCDH and designated for activities related to COVID-19, immunization, nutrition, stormwater, emergency preparedness, and air pollution. These funds are operated in accordance with the funding requirements of special grants and appropriations.

Fiscal Year 2024 At A Glance
• General Fund Revenue - \$59.8 million
• General Fund Expenditures - \$51.6 million
• Sales Tax Revenue - 47%
• Clinical Revenue - 14%

Health Statistics, 2024

Jefferson County's Population by Age (2024 Census Bureau 1 year - Estimates) ¹	Age	Residents
	Birth-14 years	124,139
	15-24 years	90,592
	25-64 years	333,914
	65 years and older	116,099
	Total Population	664,744

Maternal and Child Health, 2024 (number and rate or percent) ^{1,2,3}				
	Number	Jefferson County	Alabama	United States
Live Births (women ages 15-44)	7,885	11.9 per 1,000 women ages 15-44	11.2 per 1,000 women ages 15-44	10.7 per 1,000 women ages 15-44
Low Birthweight Births (<2,500 grams)	870	11.8%	10.2%	8.6%
Live Births to Teens (women ages 15-19)	332	14.8 per 1,000 women ages 15-19	12.5 per 1,000 women ages 15-19	12.6 per 1,000 women ages 15-19
		8.0 per 1,000 women ages 10-19*	9.7 per 1,000 women ages 10-19*	6.5 per 1,000 women ages 10-19*
Infant Mortality (among live births)	57	7.2 per 1,000 live births	7.1 per 1,000 live births	5.5 per 1,000 live births
<i>Note: All birthweight and infant mortality data are based on live births.</i>				

*Rate of live births per 1,000 women ages 10-19 (some births occurred to women aged 10-14).

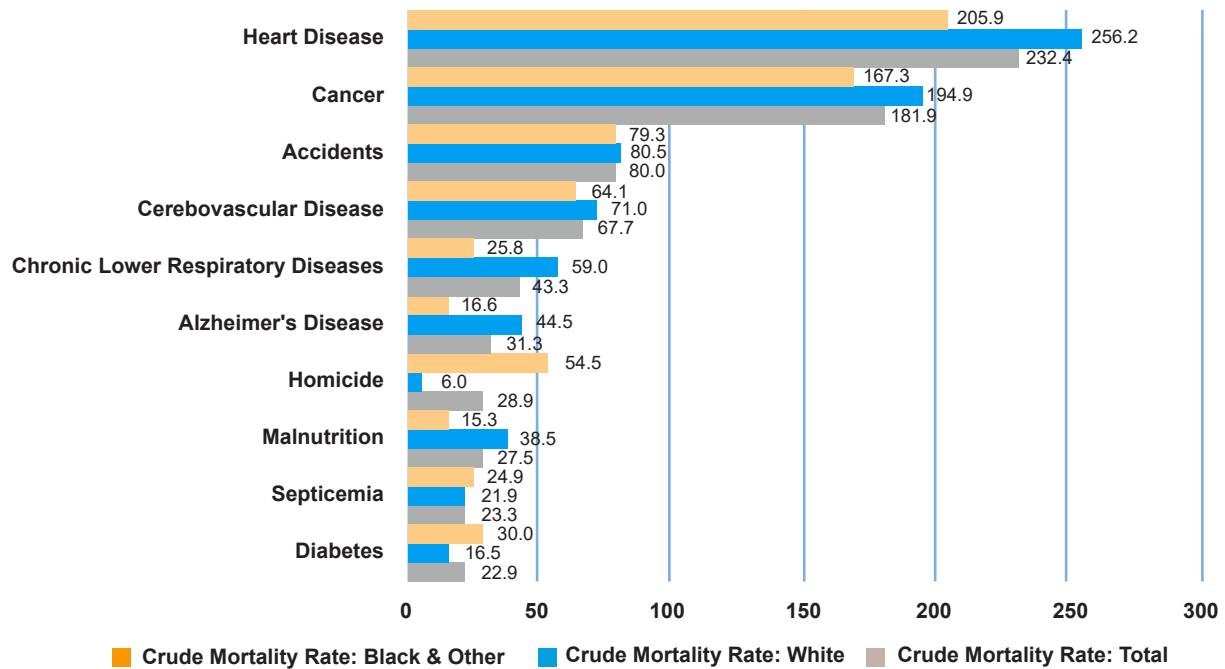
Communicable Diseases, 2024 (rates per 100,000 population) ^{2,3}			
	Jefferson County	Alabama	United States
Chlamydia	849.6	604.5	445.7
Gonorrhea	294.9	172.1	159.8
Syphilis (primary & secondary)	38.9	31.2	12.2
Tuberculosis (TB)	0.9	1.7	3.0

Health Statistics, 2024

Chronic Diseases, 2024 (crude rate per 100,000 population)²

	Jefferson County	Alabama
Heart Diseases	232.4	285.1
Cancer	181.9	204.4
Stroke	67.7	63.1
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	43.3	62.1
Alzheimer's Disease	31.3	46.1

Ten Leading Causes of Death, 2024 Crude Mortality Rate per 100,000 Population Jefferson County, AL³



¹ U.S. Census Bureau. "Age and Sex." American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S0101, <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2024.S0101?q=Jefferson+County,+Alabama&t=Age+and+Sex>. Accessed on 30 Jan 2026.

² Alabama Vital Records Database

³ Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH); www.alabamapublichealth.gov/healthstats

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); www.cdc.gov

⁵ Accidental Deaths include deaths due to unintended drug overdose.



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JEFFERSON COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH