



**Van Wert County General
Health District**

**Proud to Serve the
Residents of Van Wert City
& Van Wert County.**

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2022**

vwchd@vanwertcountyhealth.org
Website: <https://vanwertcountyhealth.org/>
Fax: (419) 238-9571

Tel: 419-238-0808
1179 Westwood Drive, Suite 300
Van Wert, Ohio 45891

Published: February 2023

THE VAN WERT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN AWARDED NATIONAL ACCREDITATION THROUGH THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION BOARD

Accreditation through PHAB demonstrates The Van Wert County Health Department's commitment to excellence in serving the community and meeting foundational needs.

Van Wert, Ohio — March 7, 2023 — The Van Wert County Health Department today announced it had been awarded national Accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). Established in 2007, PHAB is the non-profit organization that administers the national accreditation program, which aims to advance and transform public health practice by championing performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation.

"We are so pleased to be recognized by PHAB for achieving national standards that foster effectiveness and promote continuous quality improvement," said Dr. Daryl Dowdy, MA, Ph.D. Van Wert County Health Department Commissioner. "We hope this announcement will reassure our community, partners, funders, and elected officials that the services we provide are as responsive as possible and are meeting the foundational needs of our community."

The national accreditation program, which receives support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sets standards against which the nation's governmental public health departments can continuously improve the quality of their services and performance. Standards emphasize Foundational Capabilities and are aligned with the 10 Essential Public Health Services. As a result, more than 80 percent of the U.S. population now reap the benefits of being served by a health department that has undergone PHAB's rigorous, multi-faceted, peer-reviewed assessment process to ensure it meets quality standards and measures.

"The value of becoming nationally accredited through PHAB extends far beyond the walls of the health department," said PHAB President and CEO Paul Kuehnert, DNP, RN, FAAN. "People living and working in communities served by these health departments can be assured that their health department is strong and has the capacity to protect and promote their health. In addition, just going through the accreditation process helps health departments pinpoint the areas critical to improving the work they do for their communities."

Often called the "backbone" of the public health system, public health departments are on the front lines of communities' efforts to protect and promote health and prevent disease and injury. Across the nation, health departments provide services aimed at promoting healthy behaviors; preventing diseases and injuries; ensuring access to safe food, water, clean air, and life-saving immunizations; and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.

The Van Wert County Health Department works to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in The Van Wert County General Health District. Learn more about the Van Wert County Health Department at <https://vanwertcountyhealth.org/>. For more information, please contact Dr. Daryl Dowdy at ddowdy@vanwertcountyhealth.org or 419-238-0808 ext. 114.

About the Public Health Accreditation Board

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) was created to serve as the national public health accrediting body and is jointly funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Vital Records/Health Statistics accreditation is funded, in part, by the National Center for Health Statistics. The development of national public health department accreditation has involved, and is supported by, public health leaders and practitioners from the national, state, local, Tribal, and territorial levels. For more information, contact PHAB Communications Specialist Janalle Goosby at jgoosby@phaboard.org. Learn more about PHAB and Accreditation at www.phaboard.org and by signing up for the PHAB e-newsletter.



Increasing Quality and Performance through PHAB Accreditation

Accreditation measures a health department's performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused, and evidence-based standards. PHAB fosters continuous quality improvement to help accredited health departments deliver essential public health services to their communities. Health departments that sustain accreditation over time report a wide range of benefits from accreditation, including:

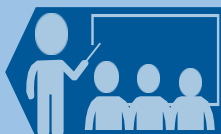
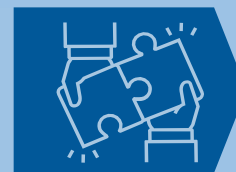


95%

Reported that accreditation stimulated **quality and performance improvement**

77%

Strengthened **relationships with key partners** in other sectors (e.g. health care, social services, education)



90%

Improved their ability to identify and address gaps in **employee training and workforce development.**

74%

Reported accreditation helped them use **health equity** as a lens for **identifying and addressing health priorities.**



“*[Health department] staff have discovered the importance and value of QI in public health and created a culture of continuous quality improvement that has resulted in both increased morale, teamwork, and success of [health department].*

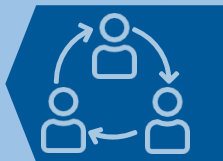


66%

Experienced **improved visibility or reputation** to external stakeholders

65%

Improved the **use of resources** within their health department

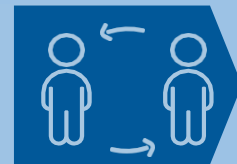


65%

Of reaccredited health departments reported **greater collaboration** across health departments or within units

89%

Saw increased **accountability and transparency** within their health department.



The reaccreditation process helped us ensure that the programs and services we provide are as responsive as possible to the needs of our communities. With reaccreditation, the Chicago Department of Public Health is demonstrating ongoing accountability and credibility to the public, funders, elected officials, and partner organizations we work with.

-Allison Arwady, Acting Commissioner, Chicago Dept. of Public Health

PHAB is the sole national public health accrediting body for state, local, territorial, Army and Tribal health departments. Through the accreditation process, we promote consistency in the delivery of public health services across health departments by strengthening health department infrastructure.



Visit phaboard.org to learn more about accreditation and for more on how quality and performance improvement contribute to public health transformation.

July 2022

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

HEALTH COMMISSIONER

Daryl Dowdy, MA, PhD.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Paul A. Kalogerou, MD

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES

Kathy Will, RN, DON

Nikki Kuhlman, RN, BS

Cindy Cook, RN

Breena Breedlove, RN

HELP ME GROW

Samantha Ball, RN, Supervisor

Malinda Falkner, Home Visitor

Danielle Okang, Home Visitor

Morgan Rector, Home Visitor

Marissa Ginn, Home Visitor

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR

Matt Saunier

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Britt Menchhofer, REHS

Kelly Freewalt, REHS

Geordan Muether, EHSIT

VITAL STATISTICS/ADMINISTRATIVE

Kristin Evans, Registrar

Jodi Koverman, Clerk

Ellen Bidlack, Clerk

Jeanette Ford MS, BS, Administrator

Sam Shriver, Communication Specialist

VAN WERT COUNTY DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

President: Brian Greve

Term expires April 2023

Vice-President: Randy Myers

Term expires April 2026

Laura Metzger

Term expires April 2025

Stacia Barnhart

Term expires April 2027

Dr Alberto Delgado

Term Expires April 2024

*Serving more than 28,000 residents,
including:*

**Convoy, Elgin, Harrison Township,
Hoaglin Township, Jackson Township,
Jennings Township, Liberty
Township, Middle Point, Ohio City,
Pleasant Township, Ridge Township,
Scott, Tully Township, Union
Township, Van Wert, Venedocia,
Washington Township, Willshire,
Willshire Township, Wren, and York
Township.**

Volunteers 2023

<i>Doug Benner</i>	<i>Palua LaRue</i>
<i>Kathy Gambel</i>	<i>Luanne Watson</i>
<i>Susan Gunsette</i>	<i>Jane Oechsle</i>
<i>Vicki Ingman</i>	<i>Marie Sanflippo</i>
<i>Nancy Wolverton</i>	<i>Linda Standley</i>
<i>Bev Profit</i>	<i>Tom Craig</i>
<i>Shirley Waltmire</i>	<i>Carol Craig</i>
<i>Janice Kirchenbauer</i>	<i>Betty Farr</i>
<i>Betty Jo Myers</i>	<i>Dot Burley</i>
<i>Linda Stutz</i>	<i>Bev Mercer</i>
<i>Pam Smith</i>	<i>Jo Hohlman</i>
<i>Maribeth Dickman</i>	<i>Sharon Blank</i>
<i>Willi Richardson</i>	<i>Vicki Ingman</i>
<i>Ann Bowen</i>	<i>JO Staude</i>
<i>Connie Drake</i>	<i>Robbin Benner</i>

Nurse Volunteers 2023

Kathy Schaddt
Nancy Kelly
Carolyn Wells
Deb Smith
Jean Sullivan
Sandy Grooms
Mindi Polluck

Table of Contents

From The Health Commissioner	10
From The Medical Director	12
About Us	13
Strategic Plan	14
Maintaining Financial Stability	15
Public Health Nursing	16
Immunization Clinic	16
<i>Clinic Facts:</i>	16
2022 COVID -19 Statistics	18
Communicable Disease.....	19
Children with Medical Handicaps Program	20
Van Wert County General Health District's Role	20
Help Me Grow Home Visiting	21
From a Family's Perspective	22
Environmental Health	23
Operation and Maintenance Program.....	24
Environmental Program Enforcement Trends and Patterns	25
<i>Food Safety Program</i>	25
Vital Statistics	26
Community Involvement	27
Services and Programs	28
Accreditation.....	28

CMH-Children with Medical Handicaps	28
Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)	28
Environmental Health	28
Immunization Program	29
Infectious Disease Surveillance	29
Lead Poisoning Prevention	29
Naloxone Distribution to First Responders Program	29
Vital Statistics	29
Public Health Defined	30

From The Health Commissioner

My name is Dr. Daryl Dowdy, and I was appointed The Van Wert County Health Commissioner and began eagerly working with the staff at the Van Wert County Health Department on November 28, 2022. I was very excited to see the vital work the Van Wert County Health Department has done. We strive to protect and improve the community's health by preventing and controlling the spread of disease, and injury, protecting against environmental hazards, promoting and supporting healthy behaviors, and preparing for and responding to emergencies. The Van Wert County Health Department provides access to birth and death records, health education, immunization clinics, well-baby visits, pre-natal, health screenings, disease surveillance, and other services and programs. In addition, Van Wert County Health Department administers core environmental health programs such as inspections related to food safety, campgrounds, sewage, and water, as well as other environmental programs.

Our Van Wert County Health Department and Board of Health welcome the District Advisory Council and appreciate your attendance. I am pleased to present the fiscal year 2022 edition of the Annual Report on behalf of the Van Wert County Health Department and Board of Health. We remain diligent with our responsibilities to promote and protect the health and well-being of our community, empower the public to make responsible healthcare decisions, keep our environment safe, and remain prepared for any public health threat.

The Ohio Department of Health requires all Local Health Departments to become accredited. The Accreditation status ensures that Health Department standards maintain consistency with nationally recognized guidelines, including continuous quality improvement. Our department received confirmation from Marita Chilton, MPH, Director of Accreditation & Recognition, The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), that Van Wert County General Health District received Accreditation. Van Wert County General Health District has an active Quality Improvement Plan. Our department has had a significant role in planning and formulating the

Community Health Assessment. As a result, strategic health priorities for the Community Health Improvement Plan include Housing Quality, Lead Awareness, Preventative Medicine-Immunizations, and Adverse Childhood Experiences. Our staff also participates in an Overdose Prevention team with other community partners. Our goal for Accreditation is to improve the health outcomes of our community.

I am honored to serve as Commissioner of Van Wert County General Health District and guide this great agency toward our next phase of achievements. Our department remains intelligently aware that we are public servants. Therefore, we work closely with the Board of Health to maintain a fiscally responsible budget to ensure our tax dollars remain efficiently and effectively utilized.

Thank you,

Dr. Daryl L. Dowdy

Dr. Daryl LaMont Dowdy

Commissioner/Administrator

March 21, 2023



The Van Wert County General Health District will lead the way in protecting and improving the health of the residents of our community by serving as the most reliable source of public health services and information.

From The Medical Director

Our Health Department staff understands our vital responsibility to inform the public to prevent disease. We continue to provide immunizations for children and adults. We empower our citizens to learn more and cope with chronic conditions by providing data-driven practical information resources.

We provide home visits for parental support, education for eligible families, and case management for parents with children with disabilities.

We also have lead case management, an annual child fatality review, and ongoing communication with counties and the Ohio Department of Health for disease monitoring, management, and recommendations for our citizens.

We remain prepared to inform and advise the community regarding managing any future local or widespread disease outbreaks.

- Paul A. Kalogerou, MD



About Us

Mission Statement

The overall mission of the Van Wert County General Health District is to promote and to protect the health and well-being of the community.

Van Wert County General Health District Vision

The Van Wert County General Health District will lead the way in protecting and improving the health of the residents of our community by serving as the most reliable source of public health services and information.

Van Wert County General Health District Values

Respect

We value all of our clients and co-workers and treat them with fairness and respect.

Excellence

We strive to maintain a highly capable workforce comprised of dependable, hard-working professionals who exhibit an open-mindedness that allows them to grow and learn from both positive and negative experiences.

Service

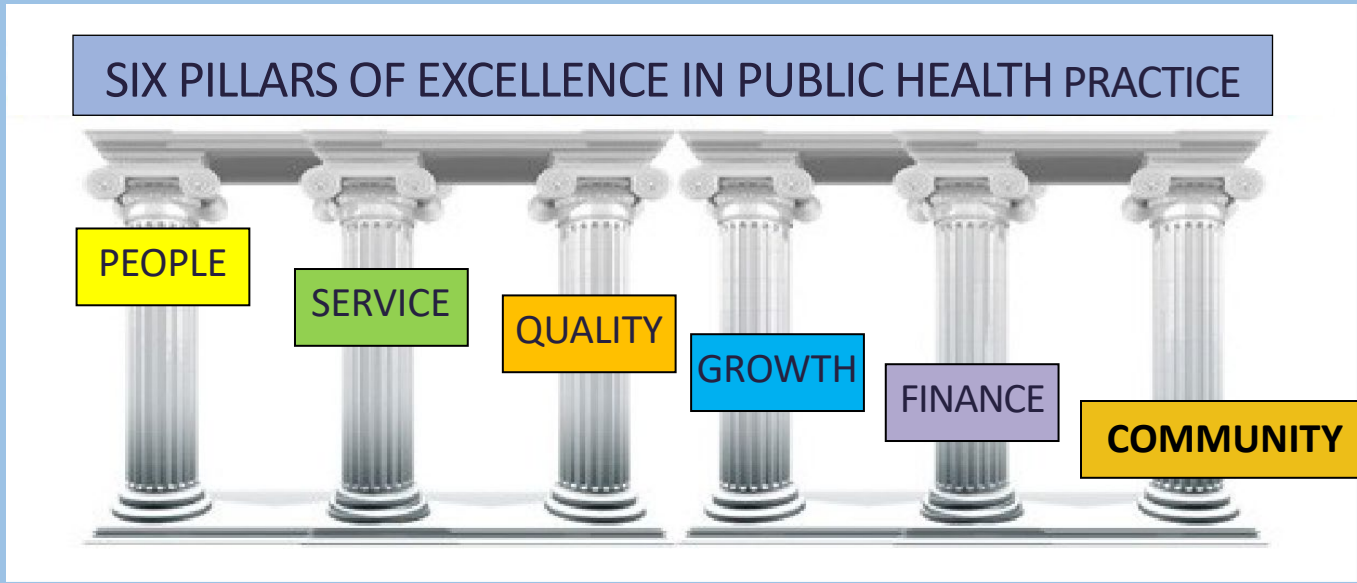
We value our role as a public service agency. We strive to provide our clients with the best possible service in a friendly, honest and compassionate manner, with patience and sensitivity to the unique needs of each individual.

Teamwork

We value a spirit of clear communication and teamwork, both within our agency and when working with external partners to protect and improve the health of our community.

Strategic Plan

2021 - 2023

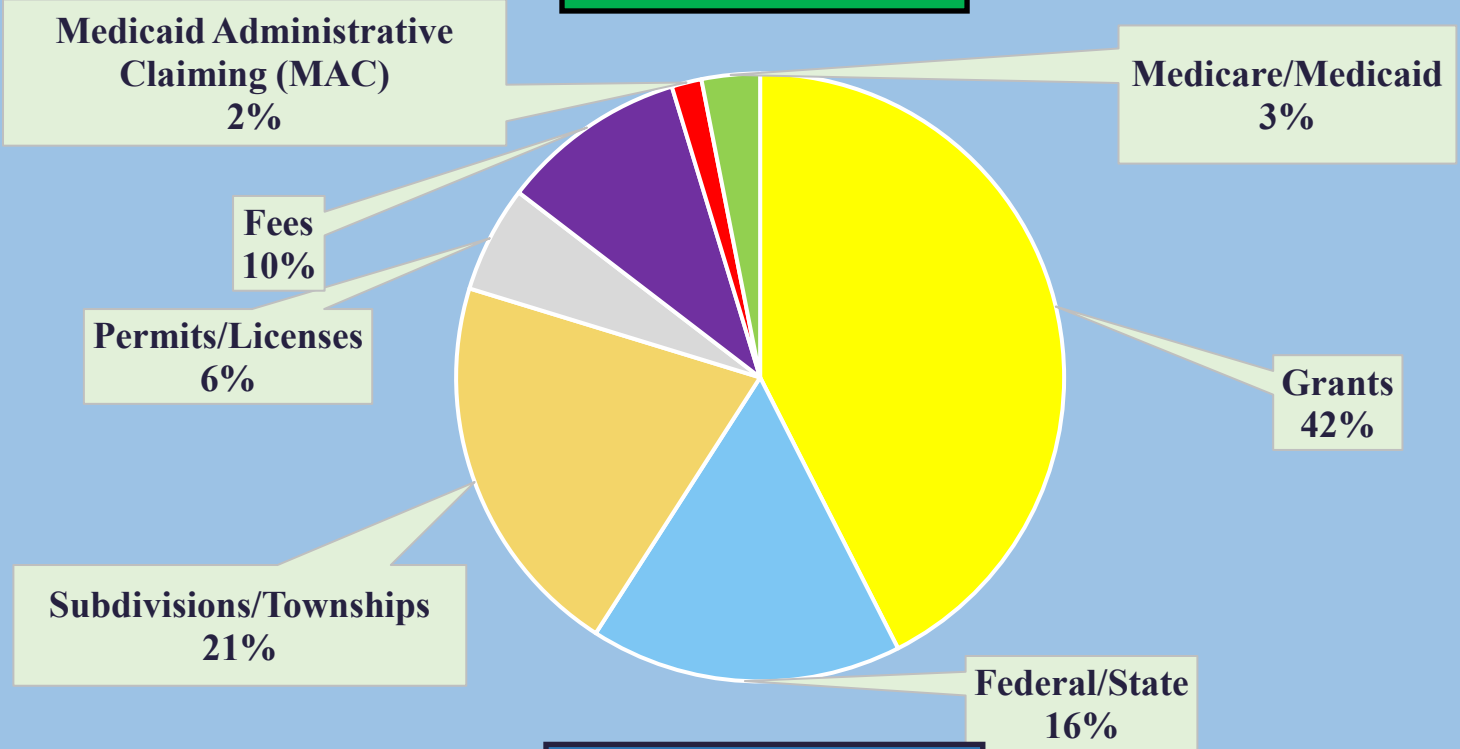


Pillar of Excellence:	What the Pillar stands for:
PEOPLE	VWCGHD will maintain a supported, healthy, competent, and satisfied workforce internally and externally.
SERVICE	VWCGHD will provide excellent, culturally competent, courteous service in every division agency-wide.
QUALITY	VWCGHD will continuously monitor agency performance for opportunities for quality improvement.
GROWTH	VWCGHD will seek new and innovative ways to engage the community and market our programs and public health services to those needing them.
FINANCE	VWCGHD will be excellent stewards of taxpayer dollars and efficient managers of agency resources to fund all essential health services adequately.
COMMUNITY	VWCGHD will engage partners, key stakeholders, and policymakers in improving community health outcomes.

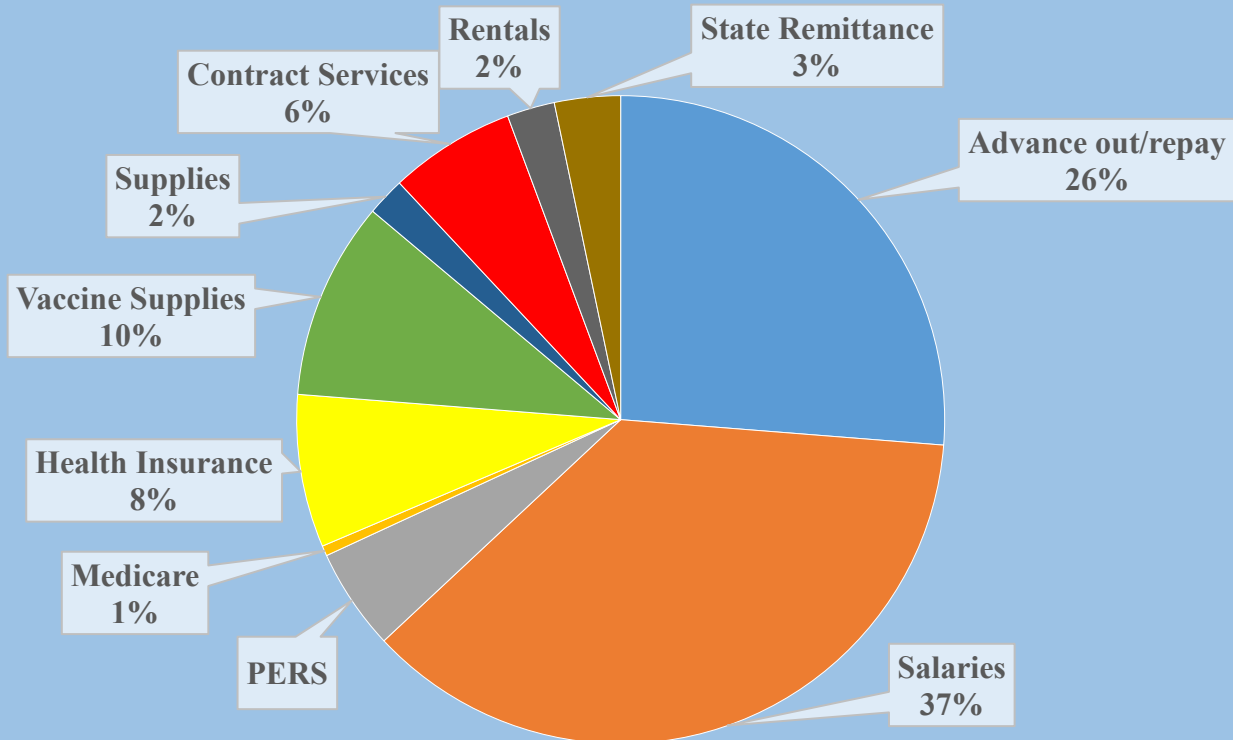
Maintaining Financial Stability

Strategic Goal: VWCGHD will be excellent stewards of taxpayer dollars and efficient managers of agency resources to adequately fund the provision of all essential health services.

2022 REVENUE



2022 EXPENSES



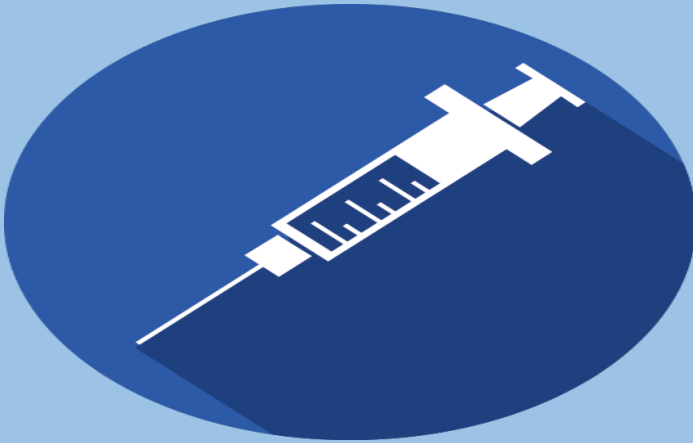
Public Health Nursing

Immunization Clinic

The immunization clinic is open Monday through Friday, with various timeslots to accommodate client schedules and late clinic hours offered each month.

Clinic Facts:

- Vaccine clinics are open every day
- We bill private insurance and Medicaid and vaccinate those without insurance through a partnership with the Ohio Department of Health
- We have vaccinated the homebound and incarcerated and collaborated with other physicians' offices to provide COVID vaccines.
- We provide vaccine education to physician offices to ensure they have the most up-to-date information on immunizations.



Immunizations

Immunizing children on schedule is the best protection against dangerous diseases.

Along with regular checkups at the doctor's office or health clinic, immunizations are the best way to keep all children and adults healthy.

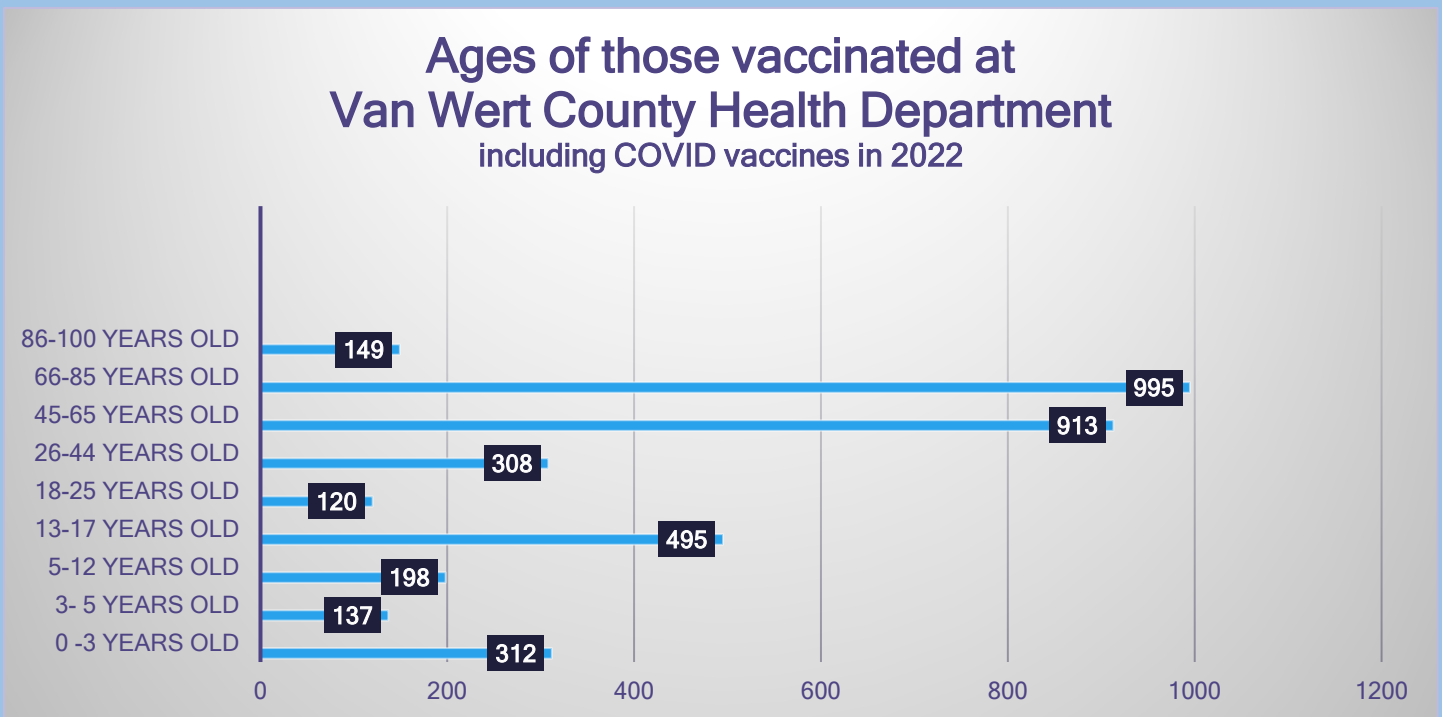
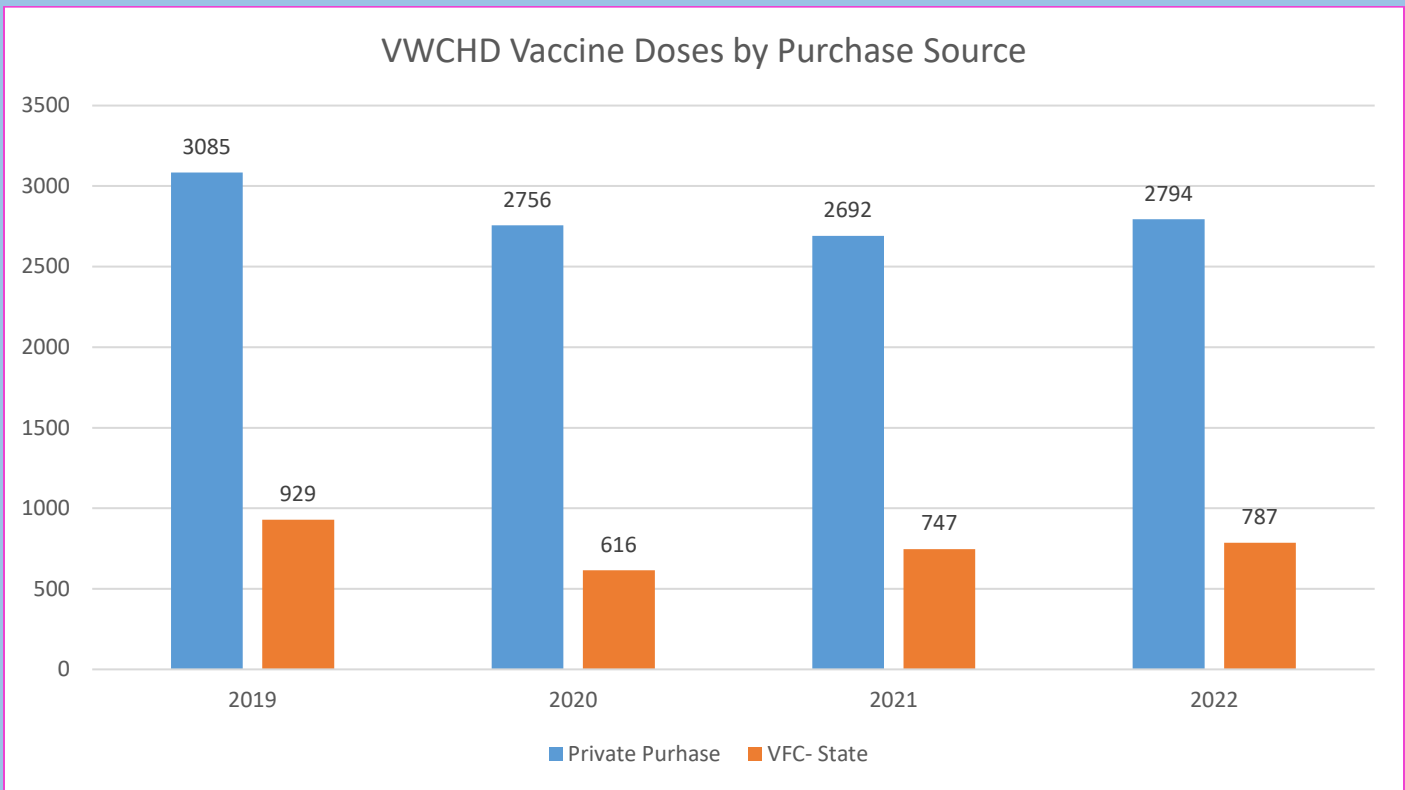
Don't Delay... Vaccinate Today!



Flu Vaccine

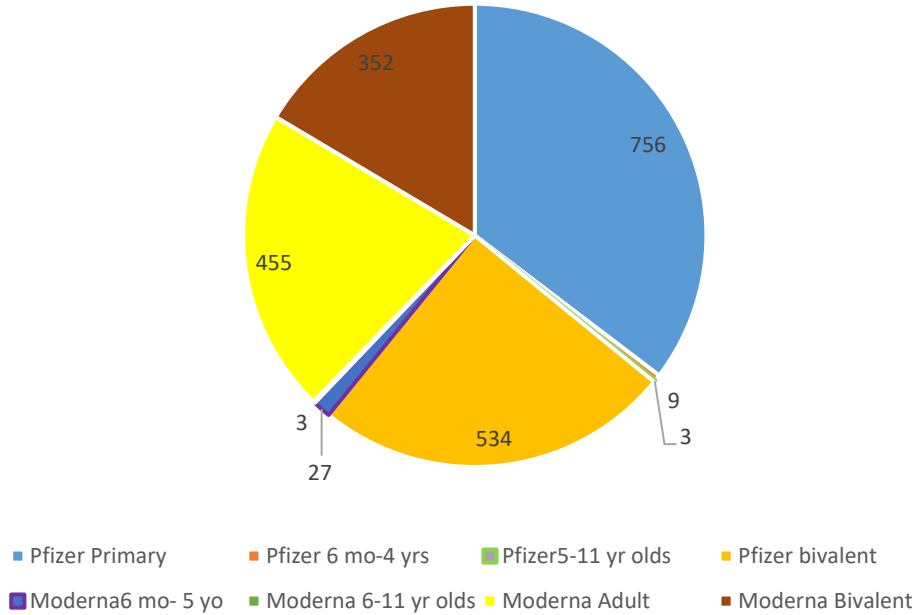
The Van Wert County General Health District offers seasonal influenza vaccine during normal clinic hours by appointment only. Flu viruses vary from year to year, and the flu vaccine addresses these changes. To be protected, you must be immunized every year.

The chart below documents the number of vaccines provided from 2019-2022 and the funding used to purchase these vaccines.

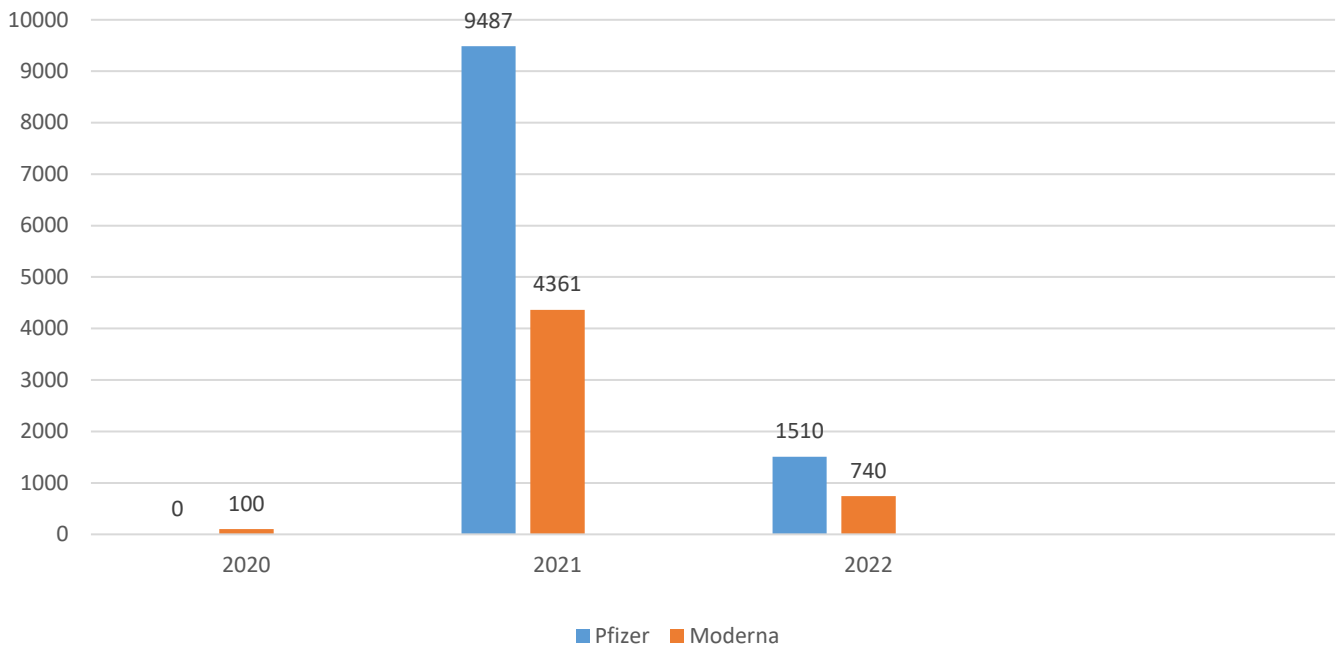


2022 COVID -19 Statistics

COVID Vaccines by Type 2022



COVID 19 Vaccine Distribution by Year



Communicable Disease

Infectious diseases are reported and investigated depending on their classification through the CDC. In addition, nursing staff tracks the prevalence of various diseases, contact-tracing spread, and provides educational information to those infected, including COVID-19 case investigations. In 2022, Van Wert County had 2,877 reported cases of COVID-19 investigations completed by our Infectious Disease Nurse and other Health Department staff.



Reportable Condition	2022 (YTD)
Campylobacteriosis	8
Chlamydia	62
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	2,877
CP-CRE	2
Cryptosporidiosis	3
E. coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing (O157:H7, Not O157, Unknown Serotype)	1
Giardiasis	1
Gonorrhea	14
Haemophilus influenza	1
Hepatitis B (chronic)	3
Hepatitis C (chronic)	18
Immigrant Investigation	1
Influenza-associated hospitalization	6
Meningitis – aseptic/viral	1
Meningitis – bacterial (Not Neisseria meningitidis)	1
Salmonellosis	2

Children with Medical Handicaps Program

The Children with Medical Handicaps Program (CMH) is a health care program in the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). CMH links families of children with special health care needs to a network of quality providers and helps families obtain payment for the services their children need.

CMH's mission is to assure, through the development and support of high quality, coordinated systems, that children with special health care needs and their families obtain comprehensive care and services that are family centered, community based and culturally sensitive.

CMH is a state-administered program that operates within ODH. CMH receives funding for services from the federal Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, state general revenue funds, county tax funds, third-party reimbursements and donations. CMH promotes early identification of children with handicapping conditions and treatment of those children by appropriate health care providers.

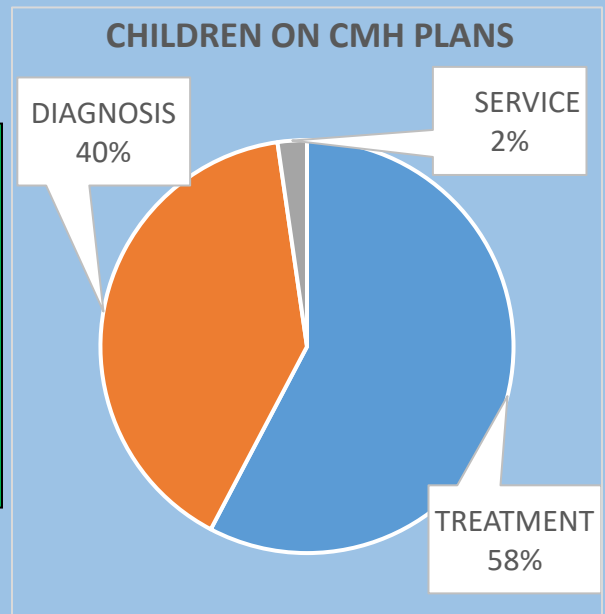
Van Wert County General Health District's Role

The Van Wert County General Health District has trained and employed one full-time Registered Nurse to assist Van Wert County families with children with certain medical conditions. In addition, our Registered Nurse helps families to increase access to care, assists families in accessing and utilizing appropriate sources of payment for services for their child, and supports the coordination of services.



\$92,240
Revenue
149
Children covered in all service areas: diagnostic, treatment, and service coordination

Total Services 175:
 Treatment plan services 101
 Diagnostic plan services 70
 Service plans 4



Help Me Grow Home Visiting

Help Me Grow Home Visiting is a voluntary parent support program that offers families a judgment-free environment to receive up-to-date information on child development and well-being and promote school readiness. Each family support specialist partners with the family to improve maternal and child health, prevent child abuse and neglect, encourage positive parenting, and promote child development. Scheduling a home visit is done on a parent's terms and at their convenience. The visits will take place wherever it is most comfortable for the caregiver, typically in the home. Each visit will center on the family's specific interests in areas like child development, toilet training, positive stress management, discipline, and safety.

41

Families Served

754 Visits with Families

\$133,413.65

Total Revenue

2 Certified Home Visitors



Help Me Grow / Home Visitor

From a Family's Perspective



Malinda has been a support in this journey with my baby. I never thought I would have this experience to talk about my baby's development, usually pediatrics focuses more on health but not emotional development, and for me and my baby having someone from outside to taking care of us has been very important.

Having Malinda's opinion about the things that are culturally different has been supportive, and like that, she is very willing to help us with our English language learning.

-Sheila-



Malinda has been so wonderful with my family. She has been a big help of pointing us in the right direction with issues that we may have. I highly recommend Help Me Grow to any family that needs help. I appreciate everything that they have done!

-Brittany-

Environmental Health

Licensing Programs	Licenses	Inspections
Food Service Operation/Retail Food Establishments	247	413
Schools		13
Public Swimming Pools/Spas	8	46
Manufactured Home Parks		8
Campgrounds	3	5
Tattoo & Body Piercing Facilities	3	6
Solid Waste Facilities	1	4

Permit Programs	Permits	Inspections
Private Water Systems	37	36
Sewage System Installation	27	49
Operation & Maintenance Program	249	110
Septage Hauler Vehicles	18	3

Registration Programs	Registrations
Sewage System Installers	13
Septage Haulers	12
Sewage System Service Providers	6

Miscellaneous Programs and Services	Totals
Nuisance Complaint Investigations/Re-inspections	72
Real Estate Well & Septic Inspections	30

2% Decrease
**Food Service
 Operation/Retail
 Food Establishment
 Licenses**

17% Decrease
**Private Water
 System Permits**

25% Increase
**Nuisance Complaint
 Investigations**



58
 Animal Bite
 Investigations

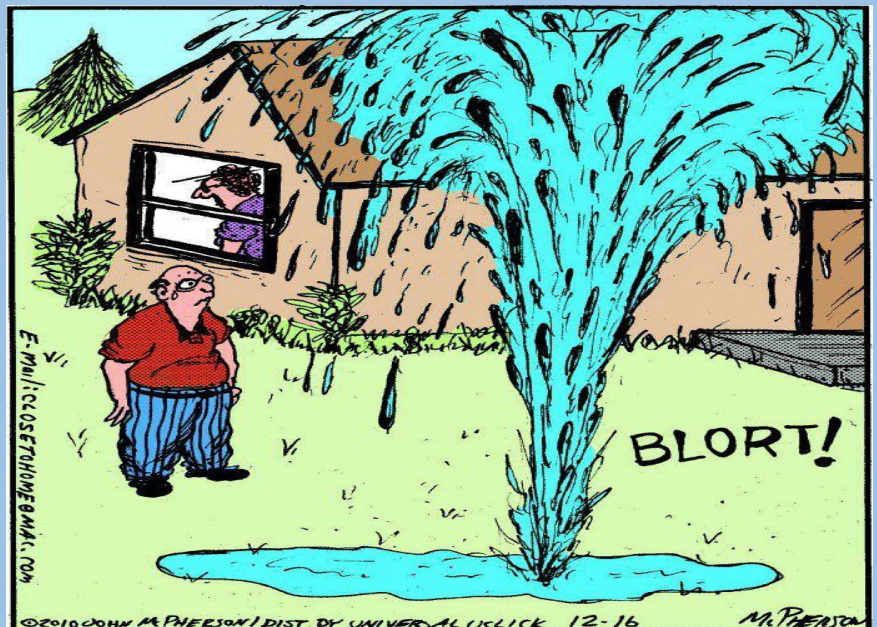
Operation and Maintenance Program

In 2022, our department continued with the implementation of the Household Sewage Treatment System Operation and Maintenance Program. In 2015, new language was written into regulation requiring health departments across the state of Ohio to establish an operation and maintenance-permitting program for sewage treatment systems. The purpose of the program is to ensure that septic systems are being maintained properly and not causing a public health nuisance, and to help educate homeowners on how to maintain their systems. The program rules and regulations can be found in the Ohio Administrative Code 3701-29-19 and the Ohio Revised Code 3718.02 (A) (7). The operation and maintenance permit is \$50 and is renewed every five years. There are three options for the homeowner to meet the evaluation requirements: Have a registered service provider to evaluate, pump/maintain the system; provide documentation to our department showing the system has been pumped within the past two years; have an EH specialist complete the evaluation at the property. There is no requirement to pump the septic tank, only recommendations. If a system is covered, there is no requirement to uncover or dig up the system. Each year, our department will add additional households to the program and send mailings out to more households in the county with information on obtaining a permit. Please contact our office if you have questions.

Wastewater can contain disease-causing pathogens: Bacteria, Viruses, Protozoa, Helminths, etc.



Wastewater can attract vectors.

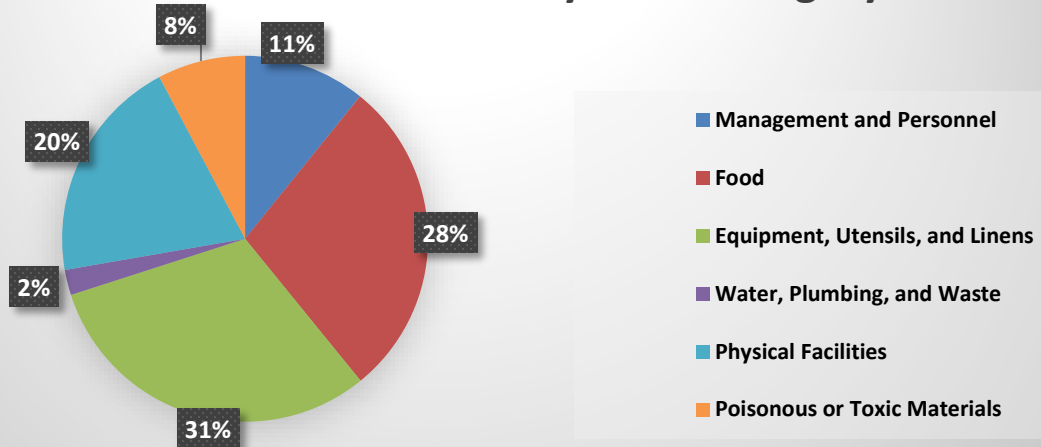


“Rick, I think something is wrong with the septic system. The toilet is flushing kind of slowly.”

Environmental Program Enforcement Trends and Patterns

Food Safety Program

2022 Food Code Violations by Code Category



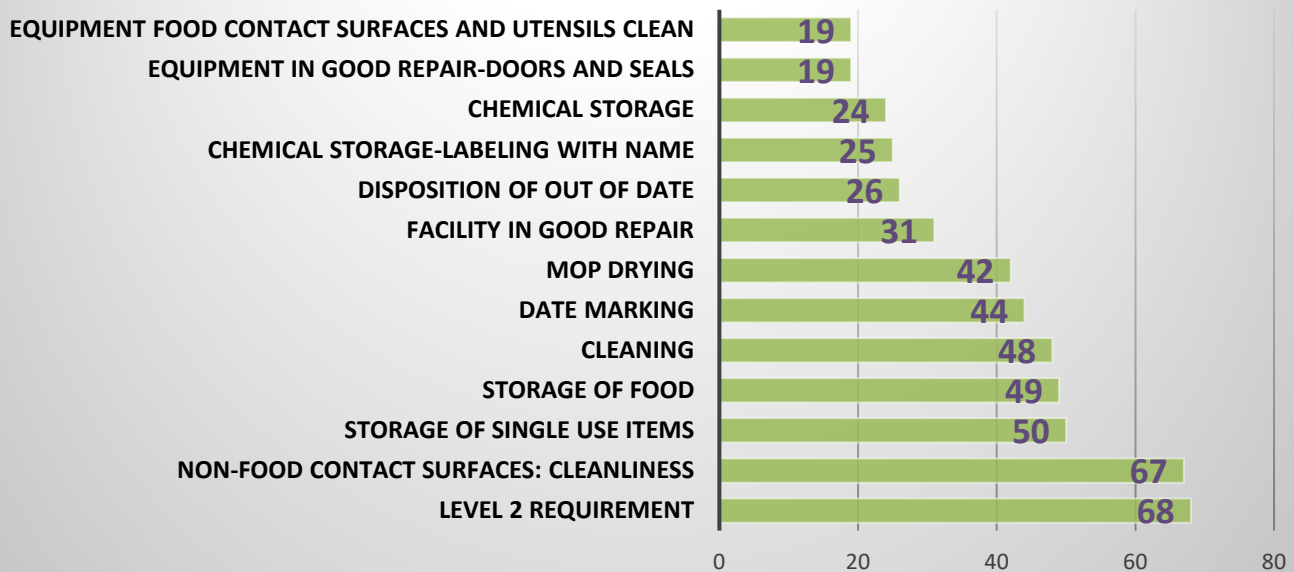
These graphs depict a breakdown of the violations cited by the health department in 2022. The top pie chart break the violations down by the Code Category they are in. In both years, the highest number of violations cited from the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code were food related violations and equipment, utensils, and linens violations.

Food Safety Program operates under ORC 3717, OAC 3701-21, and OAC 901:3.

Staff inspect and license all restaurants within the county, all types of food service such as mobile units and temporaries, as well as quick food services entities.

The graph below depicts the top violations on inspections for the years of 2021 and 2022.

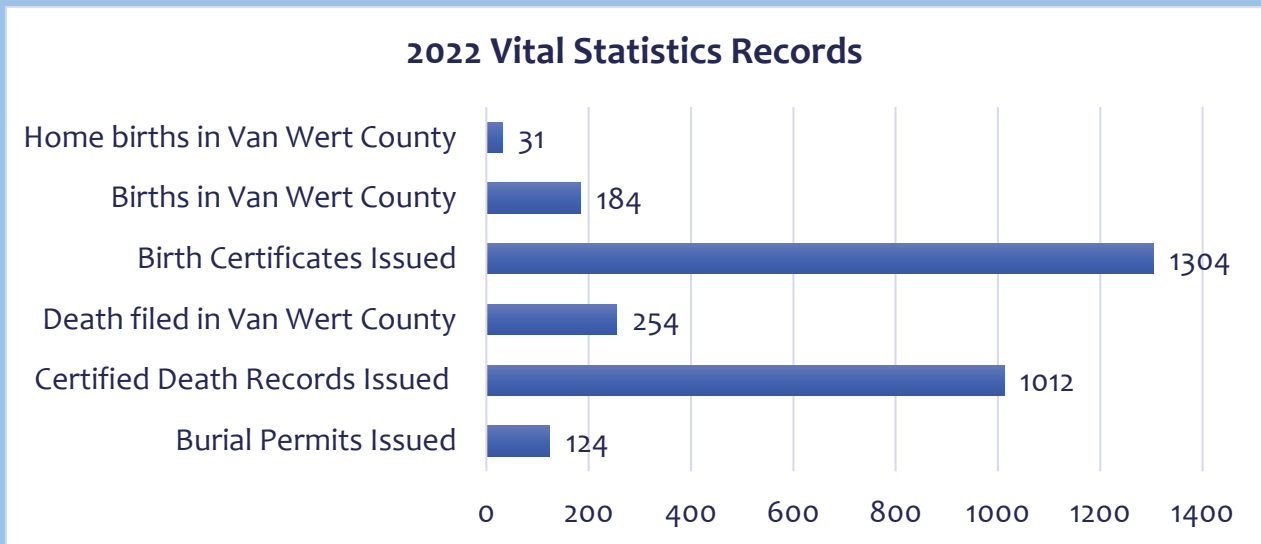
Top Food Code Violations



Vital Statistics

The Vital Statistics Division works closely with community members and funeral homes to supply certified birth certificates and death certificates. The division also works alongside funeral homes to approve burial/cremation permits and files all death certificates with the state of Ohio for any person who dies within the county limits. We also provide services regarding home births and paternity establishments via affidavits. Currently, two employees within the Vital Statistics Division can notarize legal documents for the community.

The Vital Statistics Division collaborates with the Van Wert Health Maternity unit to help families file paternity affidavits and order birth certificates via a QR code the office has provided.



Additional Statistics from Vital Stats Records

- Seven Death Certificates are still pending status from 2022
- Four drug-related deaths
- Three suicides
- Seven accidental deaths
- Twenty-six Covid deaths

Community Involvement

The Van Wert County General Health District continues to be a member of the following groups; however, COVID-19 has suspended some activities. The department looks forward to engaging with them in the upcoming year.

OVERDOSE PREVENTION TEAM

LIVE HEALTHY VAN WERT

VANTAGE HEALTH CAREERS ADVISORY BOARD

VAN WERT COUNTY COLLABORATIVE

SOLID WASTE POLICY COMMITTEE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE

VAN WERT COUNTY DISASTER TASK FORCE

FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST

Services and Programs

Accreditation

Ohio mandates all local health departments to become accredited through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) to ensure best practices in providing services and programs, continuous quality improvement, and accountability to our clients, public health partners, and key stakeholders. PHAB Accreditation Standards and Measures are organized within 12 Domains based upon the Ten Essential Public Health Services and Administration and Governance.

CMH-Children with Medical Handicaps

The Children with Medical Handicaps program assists children with medical handicaps. A public health nurse assures that children with special health care needs and their families obtain comprehensive care and services which are family-centered, community-based, and culturally competent.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)

Our Public Health Preparedness/Emergency Response Division prepares our department in collaboration with community partners against potential infectious disease outbreaks, bioterrorism, and other public health threats and participates in drills to remain prepared. Emergency Response Plans, including Pandemic Influenza and County Mass Fatalities Plans, are regularly updated.

Last year, PHEP was all about learning for our new Emergency Response Coordinator, Matt Saunier. Stepping into the new role, Matt reviewed existing plans and documents better to understand the Health Department's emergency response needs. With the grant dollars received, we look forward to bolstering our response infrastructure in a way that has the most significant impact on our community.

Environmental Health

The environmental health division ensures a safe environment by regulating private drinking water supplies and sewage treatment systems and inspecting food establishments, schools, swimming pools, and campgrounds. Environmental health is also responsible for inspecting manufactured home parks, solid waste disposal facilities,

and body art establishments. Finally, the Environmental Health Division conducts nuisance complaint investigations and rabies prevention activities and provides information on other environmental health-related issues.

Immunization Program

Clinics are held regularly for routine childhood vaccinations, and daily appointments are available for adult vaccinations. Clinics are also held for special, back-to-school vaccinations and influenza vaccinations.

Infectious Disease Surveillance

The Van Wert County Health Department reports infectious diseases received from county providers according to the ORC3701-3 and enters them into the Ohio Disease Reporting System. Reporting enables quick response by Local Health Department, ensuring treatment is provided if necessary and educating those infected with the disease from spreading to others which could cause an outbreak.

Lead Poisoning Prevention

Lead case management and education provided for any child/children with a lead test level of 5 and over are done by a blood draw. Families are provided information on what the test means, proper cleaning procedures, and what can be done to reduce lead levels.

Naloxone Distribution to First Responders Program

Grant funding through Ohio Mental Health and Substance Abuse allows the Van Wert County Health Department to distribute Naloxone to first responders as funding is available. In addition, the Van Wert County General Health District has developed policies and procedures with the Van Wert County Sheriff's Office, Ohio State Highway Patrol-Van Wert Post, and Van Wert Fire Department. These policies ensure the first responders in Van Wert County are adequately trained and equipped with this life-saving medication.

Vital Statistics

Certified birth and death records are issued to the public. Anyone born within Ohio may obtain a birth certificate at the Van Wert County General Health District. Death certificates are available only if the death occurred in Van Wert County.

Public Health Defined

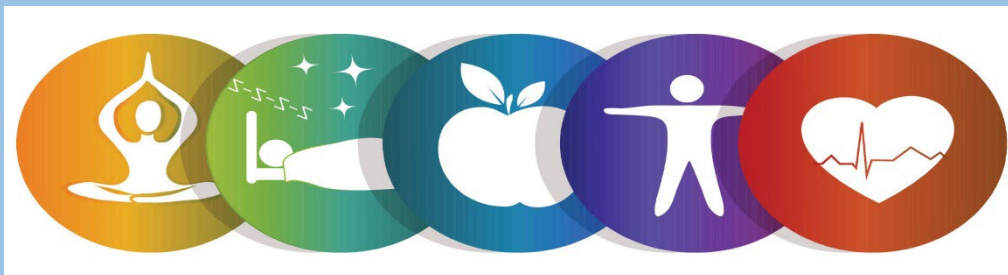
Protects health by controlling infectious diseases through regulatory inspections and enforcement, and by preventing or reducing exposure to environmental hazards and...



Promotes health by educating the public – promoting healthy lifestyles, working with community partners, and advocating for public policy that promotes a healthy population; and...



Prevents disease and injury by surveillance of outbreaks, screening for cancer, immunization to control infectious disease, and conducting research on injury prevention.





Van Wert County

General Health District