



# 2025 Annual Report





# A Message from the Health Commissioner



Dear Community,

The enclosed annual report reflects the services and programming offered through your Erie County Health Department and Erie County Community Health Center. All of our programs have a united purpose: to prevent, eliminate, or control diseases in our community. Our Public Health (ECHD) and Individual Health (ECCHC) services are developed through the Community Health Assessment process.

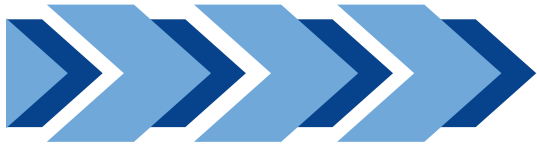
We intend to continue to expand services to communities throughout our region. Expansion of services is the most effective method to increase the quality of life for all.

As we help individuals or families, we help everyone.

Thank you for your continued support of public health, and as always, feel free to stop in or call me directly if I can be of assistance to you or your family.

**Peter T. Schade**  
**Health Commissioner**  
**419-656-2796**





# ***Our Governing Bodies***

The Erie County District Advisory Council includes local mayors, township chairpersons, and a County Commissioner. Meeting annually in March, the Council appoints Board of Health members, reviews departmental reports, and recommends improvements to local health, sanitation, and legislation.

The Erie County Board of Health, governed by Ohio Revised Code, consists of members appointed by principal cities and the District Advisory Council. The Board sets goals, secures resources, shapes disease prevention policy, and appoints the Health Commissioner to lead operations.

## ***BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS***

- Ms. Linda Miller-Moore, President
- Dr. Dina C. Bauer, DPM, President Pro-Tem
- Mr. Michael Bixler
- Mr. Ron Brown
- Dr. Richard Keller, MD
- Ms. Natalie Felter
- Mr. Bob Lippert
- Mr. Adam Machoukas
- Mr. Charles Murray
- Mr. Leroy Sizemore
- Mr. Joey Supina

## ***APPOINTING AUTHORITY***

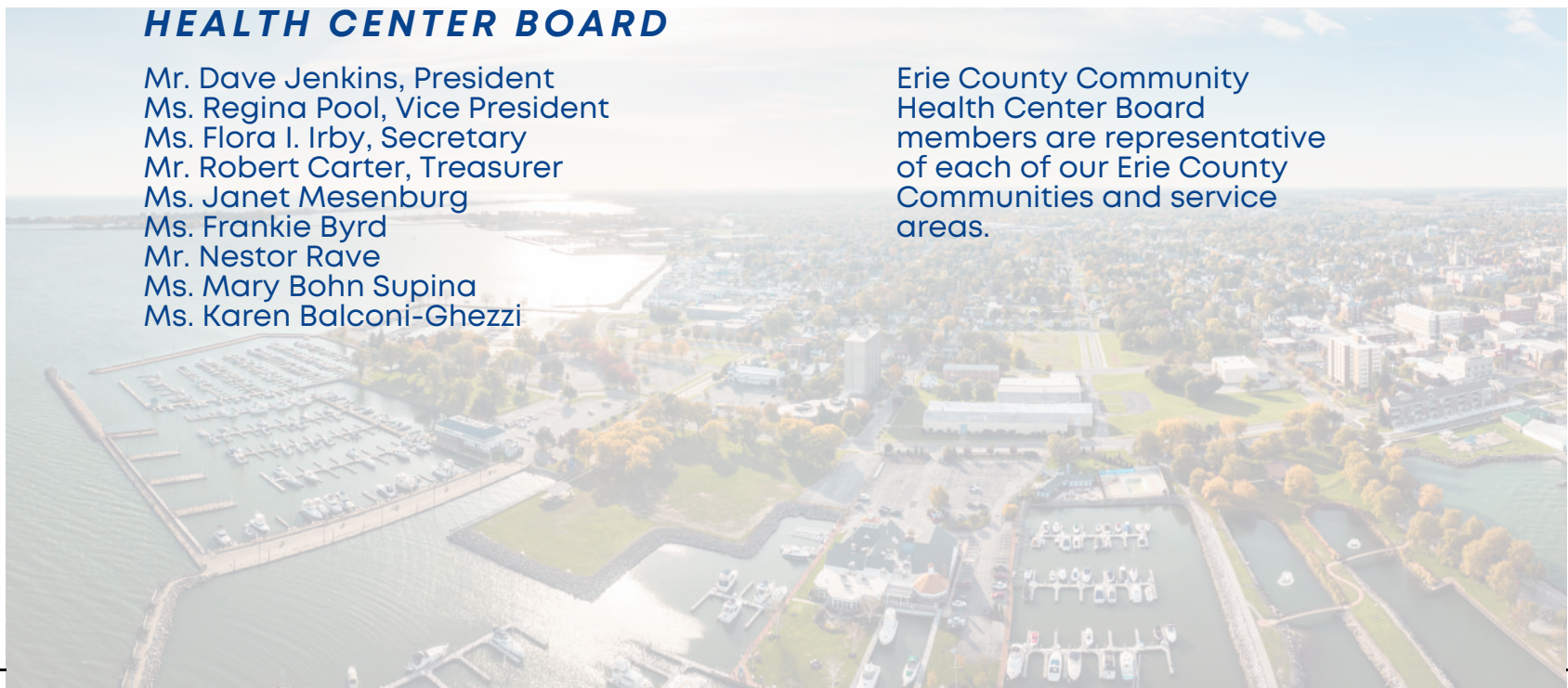
- District Advisory Council
- City of Vermilion
- District Advisory Council
- District Advisory Council
- City of Sandusky
- City of Sandusky
- City of Huron
- District Advisory Council
- City of Sandusky
- City of Sandusky
- City of Sandusky

## ***ERIE COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER BOARD***

- Mr. Dave Jenkins, President
- Ms. Regina Pool, Vice President
- Ms. Flora I. Irby, Secretary
- Mr. Robert Carter, Treasurer
- Ms. Janet Mesenburg
- Ms. Frankie Byrd
- Mr. Nestor Rave
- Ms. Mary Bohn Supina
- Ms. Karen Balconi-Ghezzi

## ***APPOINTING AUTHORITY***

Erie County Community Health Center Board members are representative of each of our Erie County Communities and service areas.



# Our Strategic Priorities: 2025-2026



## **Facilities & Infrastructure**

To provide and maintain the needed facilities, systems, and programs that provide a foundation for our community's quality of life.



## **Community Health & Epidemiology**

To ensure all community members have access to the primary, oral, mental health, and addiction services they need to live a higher quality of life. To provide guidance and investigation for infectious diseases to keep our communities safe.



## **Environmental Health**

Promote programs and activities that protect, preserve, and enhance our homes, natural resources, and communities.



## **Fiscal Responsibility**

To manage public/levy, grant, and government funding in a way that is sustainable and promotes long-term economic stability.



### **Our Vision**

We envision a thriving community where everyone has access to health services, resources, and support.

### **Our Mission**

Our Mission is to promote and improve the health and safety of the communities and environment within Erie County while preventing disease through essential public health services.

### **Our Goals**

Client Focus  
Cost Efficiency  
Empowerment



# A Day in the Life - What is Public Health

Public health is the silent partner in our daily routines, working 24/7 to prevent illness before it starts and protect the environments where we live, work, and play. Let's take a look at how public health impacts the life of Penny Q. Public.

## **7:00 AM | The First Sip**

Penny Public starts her day by filling a glass of water from the kitchen tap. She doesn't have to think twice about it. Behind that clear glass of water is a team of public health professionals ensuring the municipal water supply is free from contaminants and properly treated.

## **12:30 PM | Lunch with Confidence**

Penny meets a friend at a new local bistro. While she looks at the menu, she notices the inspection grade posted near the door. Public health inspectors have already been here, checking that the kitchen maintains proper temperatures and hygiene standards so Penny can enjoy her meal without the risk of foodborne illness.

## **3:15 PM | Behind the Scenes at the Dentist**

Penny heads to a routine dental cleaning. While the dentist works, Penny is protected by rigorous infection control protocols. Public health guidelines ensure that every tool is sterilized and every surface is sanitized, preventing the spread of pathogens in clinical settings.

## **5:30 PM | Breathing Easy Outdoors**

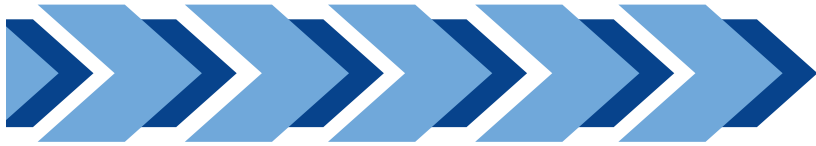
To unwind, Penny drives to a nearby county campground for a walk. She notices a sign about tick safety and West Nile virus prevention. Public health isn't just in buildings; it's in the surveillance of local ecosystems, monitoring air quality, and managing the risks of vector-borne diseases so our green spaces stay safe for everyone.

## **8:00 PM | The Big Picture**

As Penny winds down, she reflects on a day that felt perfectly "normal." That normalcy is the ultimate goal of public health. Whether it's the fluoride in her toothpaste or the vaccination records she updated for her kids earlier that week, Penny is living proof that public health is working best when you don't even notice it's there.

## ***The Future of Public Health***





# ECHD Profile

The Erie County Health Department is located on the west side of the Sandusky Bay in Erie County, Ohio. We provide health and environmental services for the 75,595 residents of Erie County and to the surrounding nine-county region of North-Central and North West Ohio.



Through Kaptur Recovery Services, ECHD provides residential treatment & recovery services, intensive outpatient services, and crisis stabilization for mental health and substance use disorders.

Through Kaptur Recovery Services - Detox, ECHD provides 3-5 day withdrawal treatment for individuals detoxing from alcohol and other substances.



Through Compass Point Senior Enrichment Center, ECHD provides respite for caregivers through adult day services for those with Alzheimer's, Dementia, and other memory problems.

Our Environmental Health teams provide home lead assessments and remediation, food safety inspections and training, water quality testing, and more!

*Your family's health matters to us!*





Through the Erie County Community Health Center's nine locations, including three School-Based Health Centers, we provide comprehensive primary, oral, and mental health services for our communities.

In 2025, ECHD/ECCHC was awarded the Health Center Quality Leader Gold award from the Health Resources Services Administration. We are one of only five Health Centers in Ohio recognized as the gold standard. This award places us in the top 10% of Federally Qualified Health Centers nationwide.



## ***ECHD/ECCHC Sites***

### **420 Superior Street, Sandusky**

Erie County Health Department, Erie County Community Health Center Main Campus

### **221 W. Parish Street, Sandusky**

At Erie County Job & Family Services

### **4501 Venice Heights Boulevard, Sandusky**

Inside Sandusky Career Center

### **333 Buckeye Boulevard, Port Clinton**

Inside Firelands Counseling & Recovery

### **34 Executive Drive, Norwalk**

ECCHC/Huron County WIC Office

### **1250 Sanford Street, Vermilion**

Vermilion School Based Health Center at Vermilion High School

### **316 W. Mason Road, Milan**

At EHOVE School Based Health Center

### **117 Addison Street, Kelleys Island**

Village of Kelleys Island Health Center

### **795 Bardshar Road, Sandusky**

Compass Point, Adult Day Services

***At ECHD/ECCHC, appointments are appreciated but walk-ins are always welcome!***



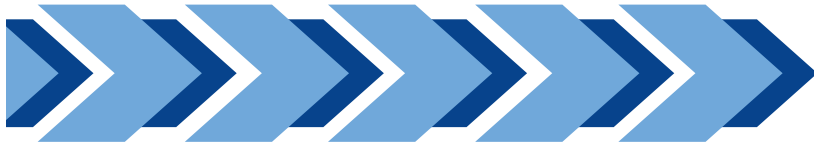
# ***ECHD/ECCHC Services***

## ***Erie County Health Department***

Epidemiology & Emergency Response  
Vector Borne Disease Services (Tick Identification, Mosquito Larviciding, etc.)  
Erie & Huron County Women, Infant & Child (WIC) Program  
Ohio Mother's Milk Bank Drop-Off  
Community Health/Case Management Services  
Cribs for Kids - Crib/Pack-n-Play Distribution & Safe Sleep  
Ohio Buckles Babies - Car Seat Distribution & Safety Checks  
Medicaid/Medicare/Insurance Enrollment  
Tobacco Cessation  
Narcans Distribution  
Deterra Drug Disposal Bag Distribution  
Drug Overdose Respose Team (DORT)  
Compass Point, Adult Day Services for Alzheimer's & Dementia  
Food Safety Classes (ServSafe)  
Retail Food & Vending Licenses  
Real Estate Inspections  
Private Water Systems  
Household Sewage Treatment Systems  
Regional Response Water Lab - Analysis of Drinking, Recreational & Wastewater  
Lead Assessment & Removal  
Rural Housing Preservation  
Healthy Homes for Senior Citizens  
Radon Testing & Ventilation  
Manufactured Home Installation Approval  
Plumbing Inspections  
Med Gas Testing

## ***Erie County Community Health Center***

Full Service Pharmacy  
Family Practice  
Pediatrics/Well Child  
OB/GYN  
Senior Health Services  
Vaccines for Children  
Immunizations & Travel Vaccines  
Blood Lead Testing  
Tuberculosis Testing  
Hepatitis C - Screening, Diagnosis, Treatment  
PrEP for HIV  
Laboratory Services  
School & Work Physicals  
Dental Exams  
Dental Xrays  
Teeth Cleaning & Fluoride Treatments  
Fillings, Amalgams, Composites, Crowns, Sealants & Extractions  
Oral Cancer Screening  
Mental Health Assessment, Diagnosis & Counseling  
Medication Management  
ADHD Services  
Addiction Counseling  
Kaptur Recovery Services - Detoxification, Residential Treatment, Intensive Outpatient Treatment

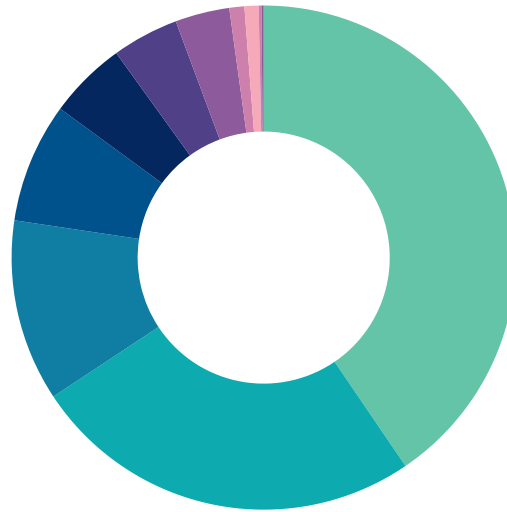


# FY 2025 Budget

## Revenues and Expenditures through December 31, 2025

2025 Revenue: \$21,989,460.63

- Grants
- Medicaid
- Levies
- Contracts
- Program Fees
- Private Insurance
- Permits, Licenses
- Medicare
- Vital Statistics
- State Subsidy
- Other Income

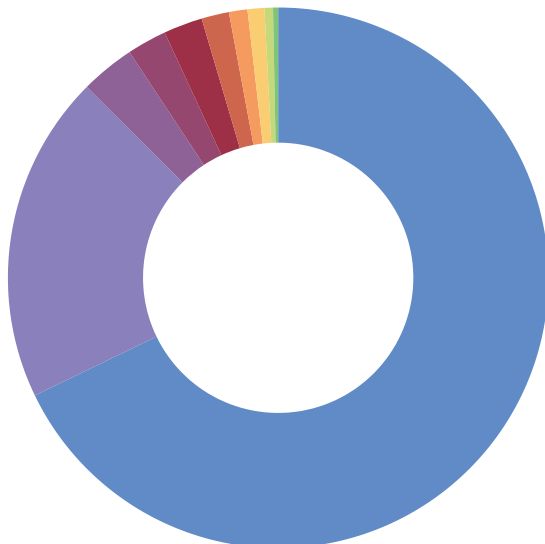


Like most businesses, ECHD's largest expenditure continues to be salary and benefits. The agency employs 175 people - nurses, medical assistants, doctors, dentists, community health workers, sanitarians, public health educators, clerks, lead risk assessors, and more!

The Erie County Health Department operates, in part, from three separate levies: a 0.2, 0.3, and 0.5 mil levy. These levies account for 11.7% of our annual budget. The remaining 88.3% comes from outside funding through grants and other sources. What does that mean for the average homeowner in Erie County?

On average, for a home valued at \$100,000, the annual cost of supporting essential community health services through a .2 mil levy is **approximately \$20.00 per year**. This modest investment ensures the continued availability of vital public health resources that protect our families and contribute to a healthier community for all.

ECHD provides services including health and dental, infectious disease tracing, food service trainings, restaurant inspections, water testing, septic replacements, healthy homes assessments, lead hazard control, and more!



- Salaries & Benefits
- Contractual Services
- Supplies
- Lab Fees & Medications
- Equipment
- Communications
- State Fees
- Travel & Training
- Maintenance
- Other Expense

2025 Expenses: \$22,686,255.06

# DAYS OF SERVICE



**1,226**  
Infectious Disease  
Investigations

Nuisance/Pest  
Investigations **328**  
Birth Certificates **3,181**

Death Certificates **4,493**

Adult Immunizations **2,043**

Childhood  
Immunizations **3,834**

Diseases  
Protected  
Against **10,641**



**11,158**

Primary Health Visits

Mobile Health  
Vehicle Visits **313**

Behavioral  
Health Visits **3,561**

**10** School Contracts  
to provide nursing  
services



**10,821**

Oral Health Visits



Kaptur Recovery  
- Detox Patients **578**

Kaptur Recovery  
- Residential  
Patients **22**



Smoking  
Cessation  
Referrals **21**

Care Referrals **2,792**

Food Licenses **879**

Disease  
Outbreaks **32**

Group Therapy  
Hours Provided **390**

Meals Served **273**

Average Monthly  
WIC Participants **1,925**

Breastfeeding Classes **226**

**Water  
Testing**

Beaches **1,504**

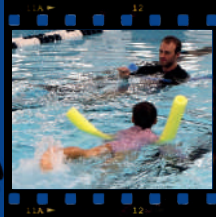
Drinking  
Water **1,398**

Waste  
Water **1,096**

Micro-  
Cystin **105**



Car Seats  
Disributed  
**151**



# AT A GLANCE



Residential Plumbing Permits **126**  
Commercial Plumbing Permits **75**



Backflow Reports **626**  
Manufactured Housing Permits Registered **45**

Sewage Permits **88**

Body Art Licenses **27**



**104**  
Home Lead Assessments

Completed Lead Safe Home Projects **58**

Completed Healthy Homes Projects **38**

Drug Overdose Response (DORT) Calls **75**

Reported Overdoses Reversed by Naloxone **107**



**44,201** Staff Miles Driven to Deliver Services

Pool Inspections **365**

Food/Restaurant Inspections **1,744**

Campgrounds Inspected **26**



Cribs Distributed **40**

**1,890** Detera Drug Disposal Bags Distributed

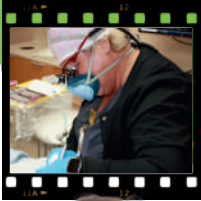
Breast Milk Donated **33 Gallons**

**1,205** Individuals Trained to use Naloxone

Breast Pumps Distributed **174**



**74**  
Alcohol/Tobacco Compliance Checks



Naloxone Kits Distributed



Food Pantry Visits **355**





# Vital Statistics

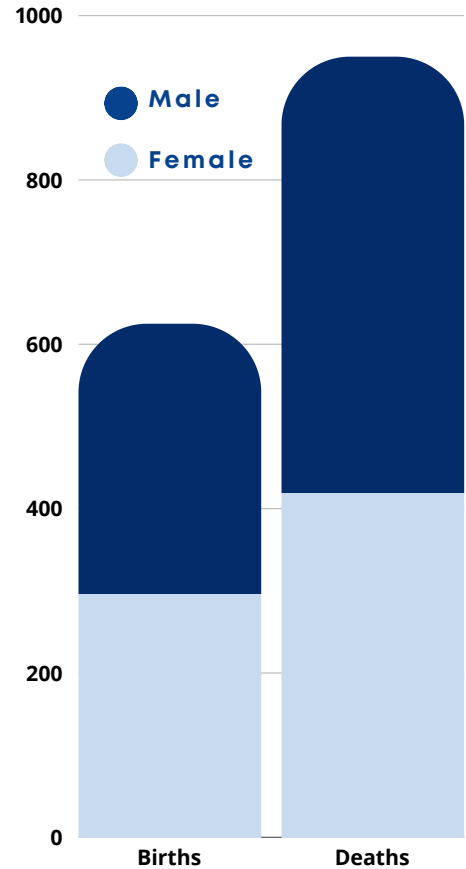
The Vital Statistics office issues certified copies of birth and death certificates. Birth certificates can be issued for anyone born in Ohio from 1908 through present and death certificates can be issued if the death occurred in Erie County.

The cost for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate is \$25.00 (no personal checks). These can be requested by mail, telephone (at 419-626-5623 ext. 5122) or by visiting our office Monday - Friday between 8:00 am - 4:30 pm (excluding holidays).

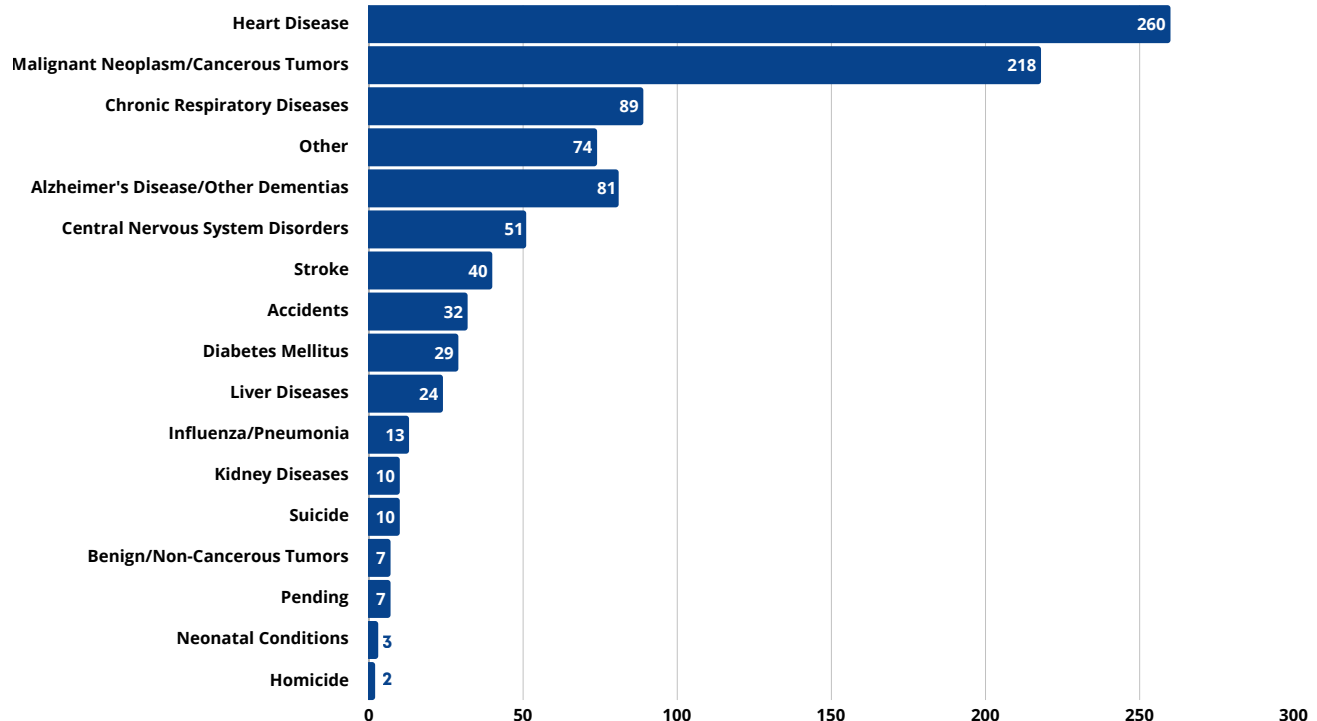
The following charts show the number of births and deaths by gender and the leading causes of death among Erie County residents in 2023.

## POPULATION GROWTH

Total Births in 2023: 625  
 Total Deaths in 2023: 950



## Leading Causes of Death

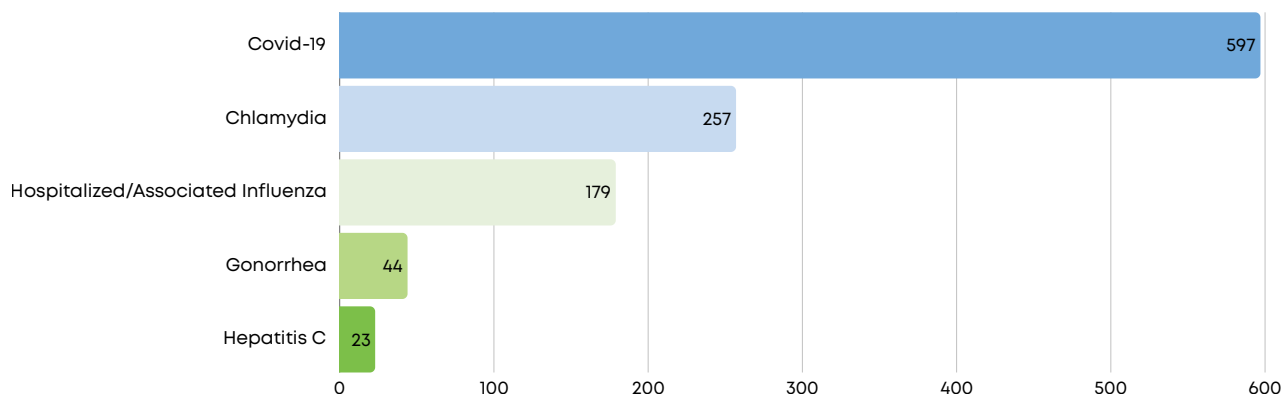




# Epidemiology

The Emergency Preparedness program is awarded by the Ohio Department of Health and further funded through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant. This program is responsible for ensuring that the Erie County Health Department is prepared to respond to various emergency events when needed. The purpose of emergency preparedness is to build and strengthen the ability to effectively respond to a range of public health threats, including infectious diseases; natural disasters; and biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological events.

In Ohio, there are over 90 different diseases that are reportable to public health. Reportable diseases are categorized into three classes: A, B, & C. Cases of reportable infectious disease are reviewed by the Office of Epidemiology and Surveillance. Some reported diseases only require collection of data for statistics. Other reported diseases may require a case interview and education about the reported illness.



Throughout 2025, ECHD’s epidemiologist and staff investigated disease outbreaks at 25 Long Term Care Facilities and 7 at area Schools or Daycare Facilities.

Of these 32 investigations, 14 were focused on respiratory illnesses, six were dermatological, and three were gastrointestinal.

The purpose of the Office of Epidemiology and Surveillance is to monitor the health status of Erie County by investigating and containing emerging health issues. Epidemiology and surveillance are essential to understanding the health status of a population and planning effective prevention and response programs. All healthcare providers and laboratories are required by law to report cases of selected diseases and conditions to local public health departments. The reporting of notifiable diseases to health departments is the backbone of disease surveillance, allowing both active and passive disease surveillance to occur.

# Erie Community Pharmacy

At Erie Community Pharmacy, we believe that healthcare should be accessible, affordable, and personal. Located in the heart of the community, we operate as a full-service retail pharmacy while specializing in 340B program benefits to ensure that every neighbor—regardless of their financial situation—has access to the life-saving medications they need.

Our mission is simple: To improve the health of our community by removing barriers to care. Whether you are coming in for a quick refill or need help navigating a complex chronic condition, Erie Community Pharmacy is here to provide the clinical expertise and compassionate care you deserve.

We bridge the gap between a high-end retail experience and a mission-driven community resource. Our facility is designed to provide:

- **Retail Excellence:** We offer the speed and convenience of a modern retail pharmacy. From everyday prescriptions and over-the-counter essentials to expert consultations, we provide a seamless experience for all patients.
- **340B Specialized Support:** As a 340B-enabled pharmacy, we partner with local covered entities to provide significantly discounted outpatient prescriptions and medications to eligible patients. This program allows us to stretch scarce resources, reaching more patients and providing more comprehensive services.

We aren't a "big box" chain. We are your neighbors, and our facility reflects that commitment. Our pharmacists take the time to know your history. We don't just fill bottles; we provide medication therapy management (MTM) and adherence counseling. Through our 340B participation, we help uninsured and underinsured patients access medications that might otherwise be out of reach. Our staff is trained to navigate the complexities of 340B compliance and insurance coordination, ensuring your prescriptions are handled accurately and efficiently.



***Pictured: Kyle Williams, PHARM-D,***



# Kaptur Recovery Services



In 2025, the Erie County Health Department and its affiliated recovery programs reached a pivotal turning point. To better reflect our comprehensive approach to addiction treatment, we have rebranded our behavioral health division as Kaptur Recovery Services.

This evolution represents more than just a name change; it marks a significant expansion of our facilities and a deepening of our commitment to providing a full spectrum of care for those navigating the journey of recovery.

Kaptur Recovery Services offers a seamless transition through every stage of the recovery process, ensuring patients never

have to face a gap in their support system.

- Kaptur Recovery Services at the Erie County Health Department - Detoxification Unit: Our medically supervised detoxification program provides a safe, compassionate environment for individuals to begin their journey. We prioritize clinical safety and stabilization during the most critical early hours of sobriety.
- Kaptur Recovery Services at Erie County Health Department - Residential Unit: Our dedicated residential facilities offer a structured, therapeutic environment where residents can focus entirely on long-term healing. Through individual and group therapy, we address the root causes of substance use disorders. The facility has 12 private rooms.
- Crisis Stabilization: Within the facility, we maintain two private rooms for Crisis Stabilization. These spots provide immediate, short-term intervention for individuals in acute distress, offering a vital alternative to emergency room visits.
- Intensive Outpatient (IOP) & MAT Services: For those transitioning back into daily life, our IOP provides rigorous clinical support while allowing for flexibility. We integrate Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), utilizing evidence-based medicine to reduce cravings and prevent relapse, overseen by our expert pharmacy and clinical staff.

The expansion of Kaptur Recovery Services is a direct response to the growing needs of our community. By bringing Detox, Residential, Outpatient, and Crisis services under one umbrella, we are removing the "silos" of healthcare and creating a clear, supported path from active use to lasting wellness.

ErieCoHealthOhio.com

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