Ector County Health Department



Annual Report

2022

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MISSION

The mission of the Ector County Health Department is to promote and protect the health of Ector County citizens through health education, environmental and consumer health programs and communicable disease prevention services.

PHILOSOPHY

Employees of the Ector County Health Department believe in the integrity of the individual and the importance of the family. Likewise, this department affirms that individuals and families are deserving of respect and entitled to public health services without prejudice or malice. Courteous, professional public health assistance will be provided to citizens regardless of age, wealth, appearance, employment, cultural background, religion, color, political party affiliation, community influence of station in life.

DUTIES

To the limits of the Ector County Health Department's funding and purpose, this department is responsible for the development, integration, and coordination of communicable disease control activities, environmental & consumer health protection programs, and public health promotion in Ector County. These community health services include the containment of the vaccine preventable diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, and food borne illnesses. Food service sanitation, water and wastewater quality, and the investigation of sanitation complaints are environmental services performed by the Ector County Health Department.

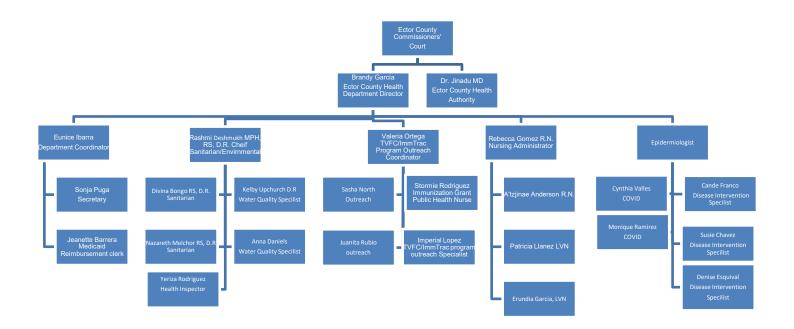


Brandy Garcia MPH, R.S. D.R. Director



B.A. Jinadu, M.D. Health Authority

Ector County Health Department Organizational Chart:



ADMINISTRATION



Personnel training, performance evaluation, employee welfare activities, staffing, property management, grant writing duties, reports and budgets are all administrative responsibilities of the Ector County Health Department. Proper and adequate funding for mission accomplishment is the number one priority of Administration. This department receives funding/support from county and state governments with the review and approval of the Ector County Commissioners' Court. To ensure continued funding, these governmental entities require reports and budgets. Other documents, such as the reporting of communicable disease to the state health department, are mandated by law. Below is a breakdown of reports and budgets requested from this department.

ANNUAL REPORTS AND BUDGETS:

Required budgets

01-470 Budget (Ector County Health Department)
84-477 Budget (Community and Rural Health)
88-477 Budget (Immunization Fund)
92-477 Budget (Infectious Disease Control Unit-IDCU)

Annual reports

ECHD's Annual Report-Ector County Annual Inventory of Fixed Assets-Ector County Immunization Annual Report–DSHS Community and Rural Health Annual Report-DSHS

Quarterly reports

Immunization Quarterly Report-DSHS Community and Rural Health Quarterly report-DSHS Infectious Disease Control Unit (IDCU)-Epidemiology DSHS

Monthly reports

Monthly Distribution of Rabies Vaccine Report-DSHS Monthly Outbreak Report-DSHS Monthly Contaminated Sharps Injury Report-DSHS



Eunice Ibarra Department Coordinator



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Monthly Vaccine Report for ECHD - Immunization Division-DSHS

Tuberculosis Division Drug Inventory (ITEAMS) – DSHS Sexually Transmitted Disease Division Medication Inventory (ITEAMS)– DSHS PPD Summary Report–DSHS

Biweekly reports

Ector County Payroll Report-Ector County

Weekly reports

Employee Time Sheets-Ector County Reimbursement Forms Medicaid-TMHP

Daily reports

Daily Cash Report - Ector County Daily Tally Sheet for Immunizations for ECHD–DSHS ECHD Leave Request Forms-Ector County

2022 REVENUES:

Clinical Service fees:	
Immunizations (VFC/ASN)	\$ 34,754.00
Private Vaccine	\$ 2,235.00
Tuberculosis Testing/admits	\$ 4,530.00
STD/HIV (Testing/Treatment)	\$ 7,800.00
Medicaid	\$ 4,090.03
Adult Flu shots	\$ 190.00
Civil Surgeon	\$ 6,190.00
Pap smear	\$ 90.00
Totals	\$ 59,879.03

	State Funded (Grants)	County Funded	Full Time	Part time
Administrative Clerical	1	2	3	
Inspectors/ Sanitarians		7	7	
Registered Nurses	0	2	2	
L.V.N	1	1	2	
Ector County Health Authority		.25		.25
Pharmacist		.25		.25
Immunizations	3		3	
Epidemiology	3	1	3	
COVID	3		3	



Sonja Puga Secretary

CLINICAL SERVICES SECTION



The Ector County nursing staff is responsible for providing complete and confidential care to clients who present to the Health Department requiring the following services:

Sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment

Administration of children and adult immunizations

Tuberculosis testing for the general public and physician/hospital referral

Management of Tuberculosis patients and suspects including DOT (directly observed therapy)

Management of patients with latent tuberculosis infection and provision of their medications

Provision of a monthly Tuberculosis Chest Clinic to assess clients with a positive skin test

Tuberculosis admits for patients with active TB, TB suspects, and those with latent infection

Investigation of communicable diseases reported electronically and locally to our Health Department

Data entry of all communicable disease reports into the National Electronic Data Surveillance System

(NEDSS)

Dispensing of post exposure rabies vaccine

Provision of Yellow-fever vaccination for foreign travel clients (by appointment only)

Blood Pressure assessments

Patient counseling and education are provided on a daily basis.

Civil Surgeon exams

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Pap smear examination (Thursday's only)







Rebecca Gomez, R.N. Nursing Administrator

A'tyzjinae Anderson, R.N. Staff Nurse

Patricia Llanez, LVN Staff Nurse

In addition to the above duties, staff RN's are responsible for monthly reports to the Department of State Health Services; maintaining the on-site Class D Pharmacy and CLIA laboratory and remaining in compliance with both the State Pharmacy Board and Laboratory board; ordering and receiving all medications through the Inventory Tracking Electronic Asset Management System (ITEAMS); participating in community activities such as health fairs, annual Influenza clinics and outside immunization programs; and attending conferences, classes and workshops to maintain the required continuing education credits required by the State Board of Nursing.

Services for sexually transmitted disease are conducted on Tuesdays and Wednesdays on a first come, first serve basis. All other services for clinic are by appointment only. Testing fees vary for different services and some fees are waived when patients are unable to pay the required fee. Additional STD and TB services are also provided at the request of Disease Intervention Specialists who work for the Texas Department of State Health Services Regional office (DSHS).

Civil Surgeon Exams/Immunizations are conducted by Dr. Jinadu (health authority) on Wednesdays. This services is \$600.00 per individual and which includes STD/HIV testing, medical exam, quantiferon TB blood test and immunizations. These services started at the end of 2021.

Pap smears are available every Thursday to those who qualify under the requirements. The Health Department is reimbursed \$10.00 for every Pap smear by the state of Texas

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Diagnosed/Treated at ECHD	Totals
Gonorrhea Cases confirmed by laboratory testing	34
Chlamydia Cases confirmed by laboratory testing	58
Syphilis Cases confirmed by laboratory testing	36
Patients treated in our facility for the following: laboratory	160
confirmed STD, Bacterial vaginosis, Trichomoniasis, Non-	
gonococcal urethritis, suspected cervicitis or as contacts to an STD	
positive person	
HIV Cases	9
Staff Nurse Activity	Yearly Totals
Patients seen for Sexually Transmitted Diseases	642
HIV tests performed	423
Syphilis test performed	424
Civil Surgeon exams	14
Pap Smear exams	9
Tuberculosis	
Active Cases	0
Suspect Cases	0
Monthly Tuberculosis chest clinics provided by ECHD	3
Clients referred to and reviewed in Tuberculosis Chest clinic	3
New clients admitted to our service for Latent Tuberculosis Infection Medication	3
Public tuberculin PPD skin tests provided	225
County tuberculin PPD skin tests provided for Human	26
Resources/employment	
State Tuberculin PPD skin tests provided for TB Case/suspect contacts	0
Labs drawn for patients on Tuberculosis medications	3
Patients seen for medication refills	0
Daily visits for DOT (direct observed therapy)	0

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IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM



Ector County Health Department offers Immunization Clinics by appointment only for Children / Adolescent & Adults <u>from 8:30 - 11 AM & 1 - 4 PM</u>.

Fees are <u>\$13.00/1 vaccine or \$26/2 or more vaccines per</u> <u>Children/Adolescents</u> 2 months through 18 yrs. of age & <u>\$20.00 per vaccine</u> <u>for persons 19 yrs. old & greater</u>. No child/adolescent or adult is denied services related to an inability to pay the "administration fee."

All clients must qualify for receipt of "<u>State</u>" supplied vaccines. Qualifications are as follows: <u>Children / adolescents</u>: Current Medicaid, No Insurance, Underinsured, and/or being an American Indian or Alaskan Native. <u>Adults</u>: No Insurance

To view the most current "<u>Summary of Recommendations for Child /</u> <u>Adolescents Immunizations</u>", please access the following website <u>http://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/default.shtm</u>

The TVFC Program "Adult Immunization Expansion" provides the following vaccines to qualifying adults over the age of 18 years: Td, Tdap "Adacel or Boostrix", MMR, Varicella, HPV9, MCV4, PCV13, PPSV23, Hepatitis B & Hepatitis A.

Adult Immunization Clinics include <u>County purchased</u> "**PRIVATE**" vaccines: Seasonal Influenza, Tdap, Hepatitis B, and Yellow Fever (if available)

Seasonal Flu Vaccine is the <u>only vaccine qualifying under Medicare Part B</u>. <u>Yellow Fever</u> vaccine is the only vaccine <u>requiring an appointment</u>.



Valeria Ortega Immunization Program Manager



Imperial Lopez ImmTrac Outreach Specialist



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To view the most current "Summary of Recommendations for Adult Immunizations", please access the following website: http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2011.pdf

The Immunization Grant Program Staff consist of three personnel: Program Manager, TVFC/ImmTrac2 Outreach Specialists and a Perinatal Hepatitis B Case Manager; all of which share responsibilities ensuring compliance within The Immunization Grant Work Plan.

In 2021-2022 The Immunization Grant applied to add the Health Disparities Grant. This grant is a personnel of two: Outreach Coordinator and Outreach Specialist. With the added grant the program was able to "lease" a mobile unit to assist with the community engagement, education, and outreach events. The Health Disparities Grant was put in place to ensure the Adolescent and Hispanic Community were educated, included, and outreached. The health Disparities Grant came with a new addition

The program staff compiles & submits "Quarterly" reports to "State * Regional" offices for the following periods: September – November <u>due in December</u>, December – February <u>due in March</u>, March – May <u>due in June</u>, & June – August <u>due in September</u>. These reports provide evidence of compliance or non-compliance within the required Immunization grant mandates.

The immunization clinic was dramatically impacted during the 2020 year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the end of 2020 we received our first shipment of COVID-19 vaccines. In 2021 we administered COVID-19 vaccines to the community. Mass Vaccination clinics were executed and planned by our staff with the help of OFR/EMT, ECISD Nursing, UTPB Nursing, OC Nursing, OPD, and ECDC officials.

Immunization Program Activity	Totals
NEW ECHD clients (children & adults)	658 Kids/137 Adults
<u>NEW</u> ImmTrac consents ECHD <u>obtained</u> for children <u>UNDER</u> 18 yrs. & Adults <u>age 18 yrs. & older</u>	544 Kids/346 Adults
# of vaccine doses administered entered into TWICES & ImmTrac	4,701 kids/ 346 adults
Total # of clients on ImmTrac Outreach List received 3 times a year from DSHS.	8,000
Total # of children outreach was attempted against said list.	2,000
Ector County TVFC Provider Sites, excluding ECHD, as follows: Pediatric, Family Practice and/or Nurse practitioner facilities (17), (1) Hospital, and Public or Private Schools (4)	26

TVFC Provider On-Site Audit "follow-up reviews" (required when a provider has any area on the audit with a NO response) * The initial audits are	22
conducted by Texas Medical Foundation staff.	
TVFC Tri-County Annual Provider Update Conferences Conducted (Ector	0 scheduled DSHS
County was hosting LHD for 2019)	not available.
Immunization "Validation" Audits	0
"Childcare" facility immunization record audits (all records)	6
"School" facility immunization record audit (all records within a certain age	4
group or grade)	
Perinatal Hepatitis B	
Facilities educated on Perinatal Hepatitis B & Case Management Program (includes area birthing centers)	0
Perinatal Hepatitis B cases reported	4
HBsAg (+) women identified & case managed	6
COVID-19 Vaccinations	
COVID-19 Vaccines administered at ECHD 05/25/2021 to 12/31/2021	3,055 doses
COVID-19 Vaccines administered by gender 05/25/2021 to 12/31/2021	1,350 Male / 1,704
COVID-19 Vaccilles administered by gender 05/25/2021 to 12/31/2021	Female / Unknown 1
COVID-19 Vaccines administered by ethnicity 05/25/2021 to 12/31/2021	White: 2,506 doses
	Black: 174 doses
	Hispanic: 1,828 doses
	Asian: 75 doses
	AI/AN: 44 doses

Immunizations/Health Disparities

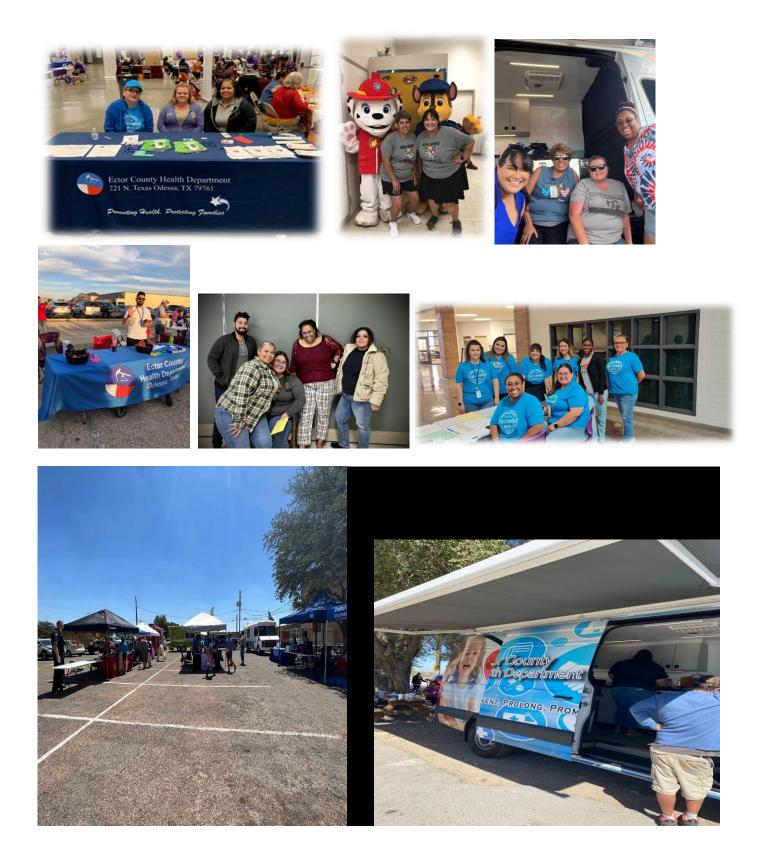


Sasha North Outreach

Coalitions and Outreach through Health Disparities Grant		
Community Partner Coalitions	34	
Education Outreach Activities conducted in Hispanic Community	70	
Education Outreach Activities conducted in Adolescent Community	63	
Coalitions/ Town Hall meeting attended	8	



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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION



The Ector County Health Department's Environmental Section's, consisting of the Food Service Program and Water Quality Program, mission is to promote and protect public health and environmental quality across Ector County through prevention and promoting a safe and health community for residents.

Food Service Program

The Food Service Program conducts routine inspections of restaurants, bars, grocery stores in the city limits and county consisting of 785 total which are inspected twice a year. Ector county independent school district requires inspections once a semester which consist of 55 total schools. Nursing homes are those licensed by the state of Texas, Ector County has 6 and require inspections twice a year. Foster homes are required to receive health inspections every two years. Mobile venders are required to be inspected twice a year for permitting, 217 total permitted units. Daycares are required at least one inspection each year.

Sanitarians in the food service also inspect temporary and seasonal events where food is prepared and served to the public, review plans for new establishments, investigate complaints, unsafe structures



Rashmi Deshmukh, MPH, RS/DR Chief Sanitarian



Rosa Salsido Health Inspector

and provide education to the public through social media and training. Each sanitarian in the Environmental Section has been trained and has met all requirements by the state of Texas to obtain a registered sanitarian license.

Restaurants, bars and grocery stores	
ECISD	
Nursing homes	12
Foster homes	
Mobile units	256
Daycares	48
Truck Wrecks	
Food related complaints	
Adult book stores/Sexually Oriented Businesses	8
Disease investigations	40
15	

Special Events

Special events are any type of events that take place where food it being served, prepared, or sold to the public. The Environmental Section conducts inspections at various annual, seasonal and temporary events that are well known to the community where food is available. Any event or fundraiser where food is being given or sold to the public must obtain a health permit, and all food must be prepared and cooked on site. Two options are available for special events the first is the temporary permit which is only valid for a single use and the second is a seasonal permit which is approved for six separate events throughout the calendar year. These events are normally held after regular business hours and on weekends.



Divina Bongo, R.S, D.R. Sanitarian

February 2022	➢ RV, Gun, Boat Show
	Shrimp Fest
March 2022	Cirque Italia
	ECISD Frost Tech
	 Sisterdough Brunch Market
	> Carnival
	Dorthy's Triple Treats and more
	Mckinney Baseball Concession
	Jim Parker Little League
April 2022	Party in the Parking lot Harmony Home
	Odessa High School Band & Orchestra Booster Club
	Easter Bash Picnic
	International Students Event
May 2022	Fiesta West Texas
	Tacos and Tequila
	City Pool Summer Concessions Woodson
	City Pool Summer Concessions Sherwood
June 2022	Parks Legado Farmers Market
	MCH Farmers Market
	Freedom for the Basin
	OPD Neighborhood Watch Party
	 Sisterdough Brunch Market
	> Juneteenth
	Keep Odessa Beautiful
	 Christmas in Summer Event
	 Car Show
	 Odessa Shrine Club
July 2022	 Sisterdough Night Market
5 diy 2022	
	 Independence Day "McKinney park Euangelistic Event" Einermaker Fondence
	 Firecracker Fandango American Legion 4th Calebration
	American Legion 4 th Celebration

	Let Freedom Ring
	OPD Annual Block Party
	Burger Batism Event at Sherwood Park
August 2022	Permian High School Volleyball B.C
	West Texas Truck Show
September 2022	Annual Permian Basin Fair
	West Texas Fest
	Swap Meet Snack Bar
	Igesia Del Poder
October 2022	➢ K's Kakes and Katering
November 2022	Merry Marketplace

Foodborne/Waterborne Diseases

Foodborne Diseases are reported to the Ector County Health Department as confirmed or probable cases. Majority of confirmed cases are reported by laboratories, health care providers, hospitals, or by the state region 9/10. Probable cases are reported by individuals within Ector County by coming into the office or by telephone. Cases that are confirmed are investigated and the results are documented and reported through the NEDSS data base. Cases that are probable are also investigated and documented for future reference if needed. Many Food/Waterborne diseases go undetected due to lack of testing.



Denise Woodfin Health Inspector

Campylobacteriosis Salmonellosis	
Shigellosis	2
Legionella	5
E-Čoli	0



For enforcing rules related to food safety, we follow the Texas Food Establishment Rules



For enforcing rules related to water quality in Ector County, we follow the Chapter 285 On-Site Sewage Facility Rules Compilation



Education on food safety (Permian High School)

Water Quality Program

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality mandates that all septic systems in Texas be permitted to maintain quality control during the design and

installation process. Employees of the Environmental Section are trained and licensed by The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (Designated Representative) to inspect and issue operating permits for septic systems in Ector County. Trained and certified pool operations are mandatory at all public and semi-public pools in Ector County. Staff are required to obtain certification from the National Swimming Pool Foundation as certified pool operators.

The Water Quality Program of the Environmental Section is responsible for reviewing the design of on-site septic systems, inspecting new septic systems, inspect public and semi-public

swimming pools annually, investigating complaints, issuing citation and working with the Health Authority on abatement, reviews oncor list of new electrical connections to investigate non-permitted septic systems, interpreting bacterial water well sample results for homeowners and educating them in proper methods for disinfection of their water supply.

Septic Systems:

Total Number of Septic Applications Received	.424
Septic system inspections	
approximately	405
Sewage/Pool Complaints	
Investigated	139
Swimming Pool Inspections	
Conducted	98



Kelby Upchurch, DR Water Quality



Irene Arenivas Environmental Secretary

Presentations, Educational Meetings and Workshops

The Environmental Section provides presentations and education to the public by offering food safety training to restaurant establishments upon request and through routine inspections, guidance for CPO training for certified pool operators. Educational meetings and workshops are attended by Sanitarians to obtain knowledge on new or



Anna Daniels Water Quality

upcoming rules and regulations, safety, and public health training. Sanitarians and Designated Representatives must acquire continued education hours to maintain their licensing.

Environmental Services fees:

Food Service Permits	\$ 243,590.00
Septic Permits	\$ 122,350.00
Re-inspections	\$ 1,350.00
Swimming Pool Permits	\$ 10,200.00
Water Testing	<u>\$ 540.00</u>
Totals:	\$ 3578,030.00

The Food service permitting generated \$378,030.00 which included fees from

• Restaurants (based on the number of employees and if present within the city limits or outside the city limits).

Within City Limits:	 A) 1- 10 employees - \$140.00 B) 11-35 employees - \$300.00 C) 35+ employees - \$600.00
Outside City Limits:	 A) 1- 10 employees - \$140.00 B) 11-35 employees - \$175.00 C) 35+ employees - \$300.00

Other Fees and Services Provided:

- Bars (Similar to restaurants)
- Snow-cone Stands \$100.00
- Coffee Stand/Shop \$100.00
- Food Trucks \$150.00
- Temporary Events \$60.00
- Seasonal Events \$100.00
- Foster Homes \$100.00
- Daycares \$150.00
- Nursing Homes \$300.00

The septic permitting generated \$121,000.00 which includes fees from

- Residential septic systems \$250.00
- Commercial septic systems \$450.00
- Re-Inspections- 150.00

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Epidemiology Program



Introduction

The Ector County Health Department actively conducts disease surveillance and investigates suspected occurrences of infectious disease and notifiable conditions reported by physicians, hospitals, laboratories, schools and other community partners. Several Texas laws (Health & Safety Code, Chapters 81, 84 and 87) require that specific information regarding certain diseases or injuries be provided to the health department (state, regional or local). These diseases and injuries are known as "notifiable conditions." The data obtained by the Ector County Health Department is then reported to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Infectious Disease Control Unit using the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System. Ultimately this information is shared with the CDC, contributing to nationwide data systems.

Nazareth Melchor Epidemiology



Cande Franco Disease Intervention specialist



Cynthia Valles COVID/administration

Notifiable Conditions

Notifiable or reportable conditions are the conditions mandated by the State of Texas to be reported to the local health department when diagnosed or suspected. A report of a condition does not, in itself, dictate that a case will be considered confirmed or probable. Each condition has specific case criteria that is required before it can be confirmed. Below are the number of cases investigated by The Ector County Health Department and the number of outbreaks that were detected. Environmental organisms, particularly Salmonella, Campylobacter, and Shigella continue to be a concern in Ector County as well as in the State of Texas. Although numbers have seen a drop from previous years 2015 and 2016, continuing education regarding food preparation safety, exclusions, and hand hygiene is the best approach to addressing this issue. In addition, Ector County has seen an increase in Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Carbapenem Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) and Streptococcus Pneumoniae, invasive disease (IPD) numbers. There was a single case of Measles and Mumps reported in 2017. No outbreaks were reported in 2017.



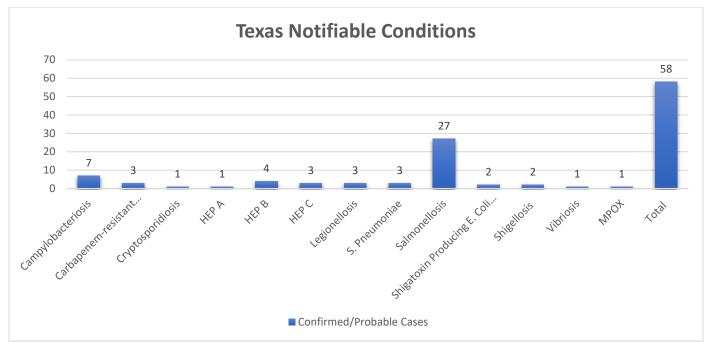
Alex Estrada Fellowship/Epi

The reports on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), HIV Diagnosis, Persons living with HIV (PLWH) and Influenza season 2020-2022 were assembled with the intention of providing a general picture of health for the year 2022 in Ector County. As a stand-alone report it is merely informational and will be further useful as a means of comparison for future reports. To prepare for the next influenza season an increase in education about the influenza vaccine and respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette is recommended.

Data represented in the charts for Foodborne and Waterborne diseases, Communicable diseases, Hepatitis and Vaccine Preventable diseases, STD numbers for the Health Department are raw counts of cases and are not percentages or per 100,000 counts as the rates were not high enough to warrant this.

Communicable Diseases

For the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, the following chart shows the cases that were reported and deemed confirmed or probable in Ector County.

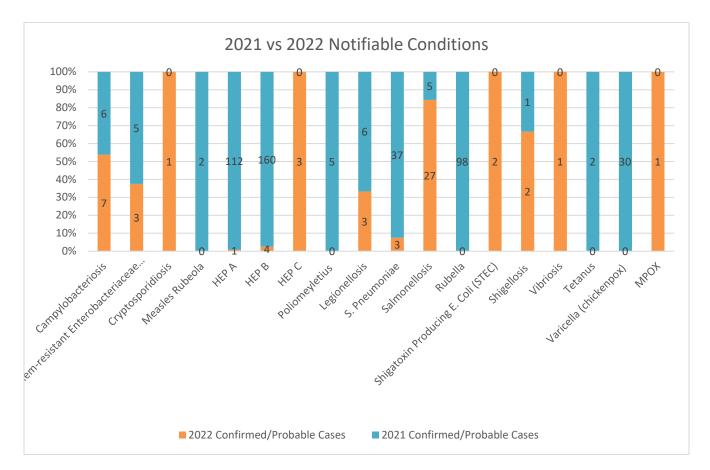


Data source: Texas NEDSS Database.

Reportable data acquired from Medical Center Hospital, Odessa Regional Medical Center and Ector County providers.

Last Edited: 2/22/2023

In comparing the figures for cases between 2021 and 2022 (below) it can be determined that several reportable conditions had remain average with no significant increase this year and a significant decrease is seen in our Vaccine Preventable cases, which may be due to the HEP B program changing from NEDSS data base to its own date base system.

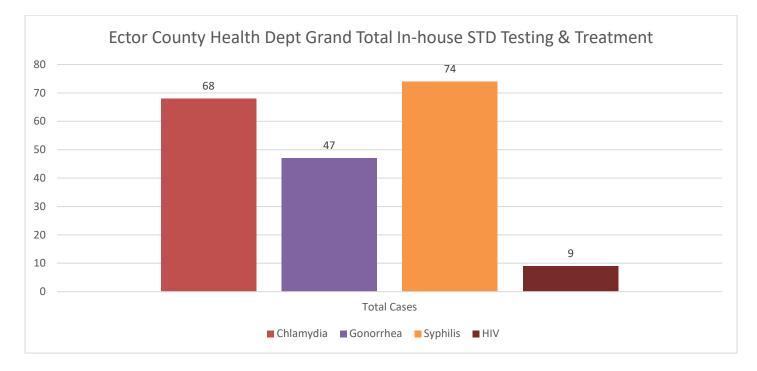


*These raw numbers are taken from NEDSS data base system and from the 2021 annual report.

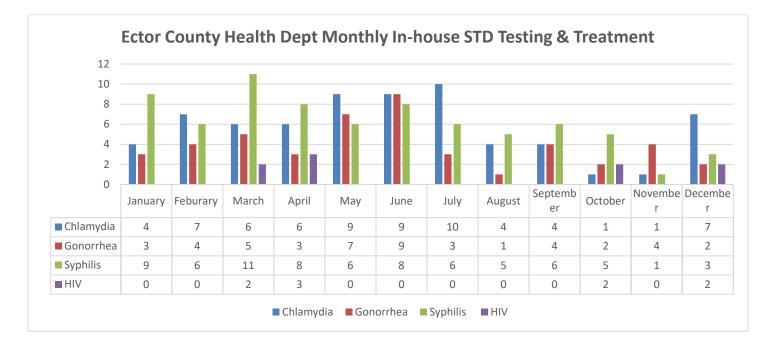
STD DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT AT ECTOR

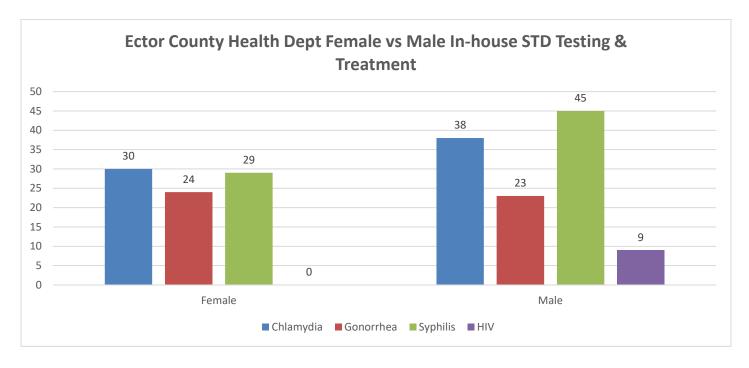
COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2022

*This data is taken from out STD Clinics at the Health Department. These numbers do not include Ector County Clinics or Hospitals, these numbers only include patients treated or seen in our clinic. For year 2022, Ector County Health Department saw a total amount of 75 cases or Chlamydia, 49 cases of Gonorrhea, 72 cases of Syphilis and 9 cases of HIV.



Below is the monthly chart of patients the ECHD saw throughout the 2022 year

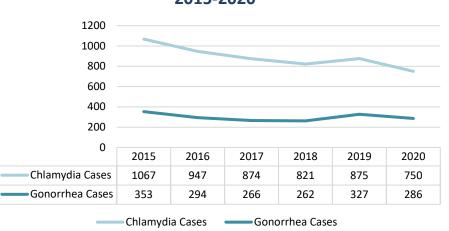




To better serve our community, the Health Department had STD clinics throughout the year and walk clinics on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, we also partner with other Ector County clinics and DSHS throughout the year for testing, treatment and spread STD awareness in our community.

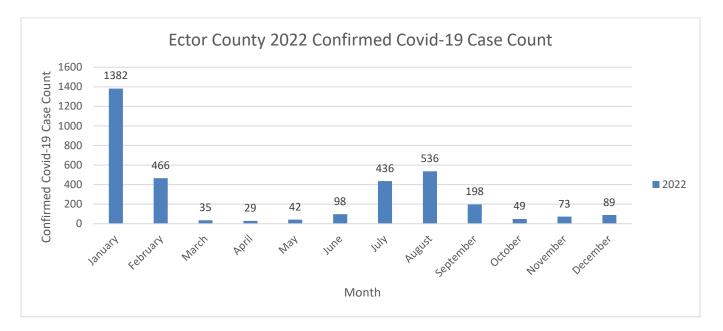
STD DIAGNOSIS IN ECTOR COUNTY 2020

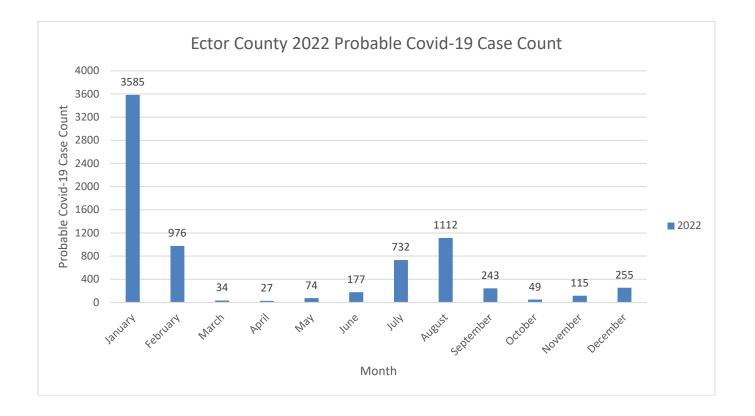
*This data includes the most current numbers the Texas Department of State and Human Services has for Ector County. 2020. HIV and Syphilis numbers where not acquired.



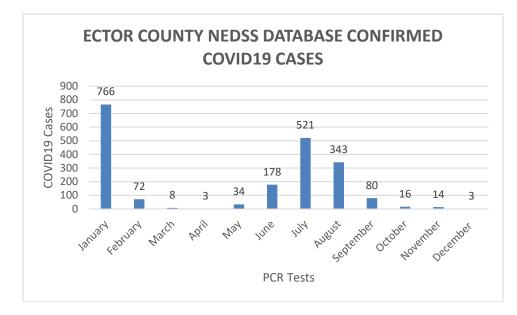
Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Cases in Ector County 2015-2020

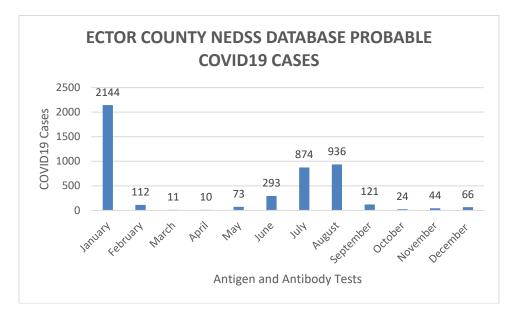
Below you will find the graphs that indicate the total number of confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases for Ector County reported to the Ector County Health Department. Once labs are received and it has been determined if it is a new case, a previous patient that has retested or has been re-infected, the cases are then worked and inputted into the NEDSS data base system.



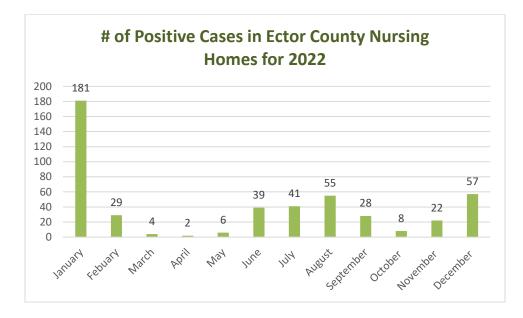


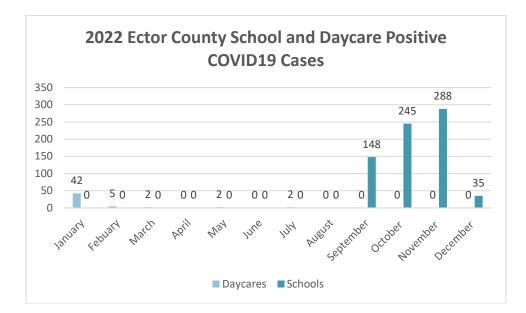
Below you will find the graphs that indicate the total number of confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases for Ector County reported through the NEDSS Database system.



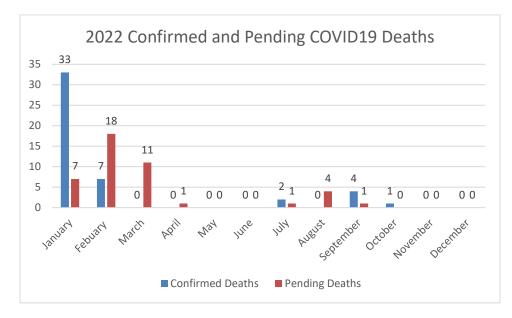


The following graphs below indicates the number of positive COVID-19 cases that the nursing homes reported to us in Ector County along with the Ector County Schools and Daycares. These were some of our biggest outbreaks; the Nursing home out breaks did require investigations before submitting into the NEDSS database.





The graph below indicates the deaths occurred here in Ector County, and reported to the Ector County Health Department. The total number of deaths are broken down by if COVID19 was the primary or secondary cause of death, the Texas state medical examiner determines this. We also have documented the amount of deaths that are still awaiting to be determined if COVID-19 was the cause of death in any form. All of these patients were COVID-19 positive when they expired.



Impact from the pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic continued presenting challenges to the department throughout 2022 in ways of limiting the ability to focus on patients' needs in relation to the everyday preventative services provided to the community which impacted revenue and the staff's ability to focus on testing, treatments, inspections, vaccinations and other services non-related to COVID19. 2022 brought on COVID19 vaccination efforts, testing and education requirements which took priority over other services. The Health Department anticipates a much better 2023 in regards to revenue and ensuring community needs for the services provide by the department.