

Williams County Health District ANNUAL REPORT



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Williams County Health District



2021

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OUR TEAM

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CONNECT WITH US

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Website

www.williamscountyhealth.org/



Facebook

@WilliamsCountyHealthDepartment



Instagram

Wms_Co_Health



Twitter

@HealthWCHD



WILLIAMS COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT



Our Mission: Prevent disease and injury, promote health and wellness, & protect you and your community

Our Vision: Shaping the healthiest and safest community

Letter from the Health Commissioner

As we moved into the second year of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we hoped that we would be able to put COVID-19 behind us with the roll out of Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccine and vaccination clinics. In some ways, our hopes were rewarded with an effective vaccine, unbelievable community volunteers, and partners in healthcare and governmental agencies lending a hand. During these clinics, the many thankful comments from patients were uplifting for staff and volunteers as the long hours of the clinics continued as we provided vaccination services to our community.

Unfortunately, after the initial success of vaccination clinics the high demand for obtaining a COVID-19 vaccination did not continue throughout the year. During the fall and winter, we saw our highest number of cases and people being hospitalized with the more contagious variant of the virus.

It would be easy to look back and dwell on the negative of too many people ending up in the hospital and far too many people dying from a vaccine preventable disease. Instead, I choose to be thankful for the many lives saved and the many who did not end up in the hospital because the Williams County community came together in those early vaccination clinics. I look forward to a better 2022.

Wishing you the best of health,
James D. Watkins, MPH, RS



"High Fives" the Health Department received from students at Montpelier Exempted Village School



Health Department Staff with Anthony Stevens, Superintendent of Edon Local Schools with a "Thank You" sign from Edon Local Schools Students

BOARD OF HEALTH

The 9 members of the Board of Health are appointed by the chairman of each township, mayors of each village, and the Bryan City Council. State law requires the board to report and take measures to control disease, enforce state public health laws and promote health and well-being within the department. The board is also responsible for the department's budget and hiring and retaining a health commissioner.

Amy Welling, President
Appointed by City of Bryan
Represents City of Bryan

Sharon Tarr, Vice President
Appointed by District Advisory Council
Represents Montpelier

Bruce Siders
Appointed by City of Bryan
Represents City of Bryan

Dee Custar
Appointed by District Advisory Council
Represents Stryker, Brady & Springfield

Steven Bumb, M.D.
Appointed by District Advisory Council
Represents Center & Pulaski

Dan Peverly
Appointed by District Advisory Council
Represents Edon, Edgerton, Blakeslee,
& St. Joseph

Cheryl Boldman
Appointed by District Advisory Council
Represents West Unity, Millcreek, &
Madison Township

Tammy Bernath
Appointed by District Advisory Council
Represents Pioneer, Bridgewater,
Florence, & Northwest

Michelle Egler
Appointed by District Advisory Council
Represents Jefferson
& Superior

Back row: Bruce Siders, Amy Welling, Dan Peverly, & Tammy Bernath

Front row: Dr. Steven Bumb, Sharon Tarr, & Dee Custar

Not pictured: Cheryl Boldman

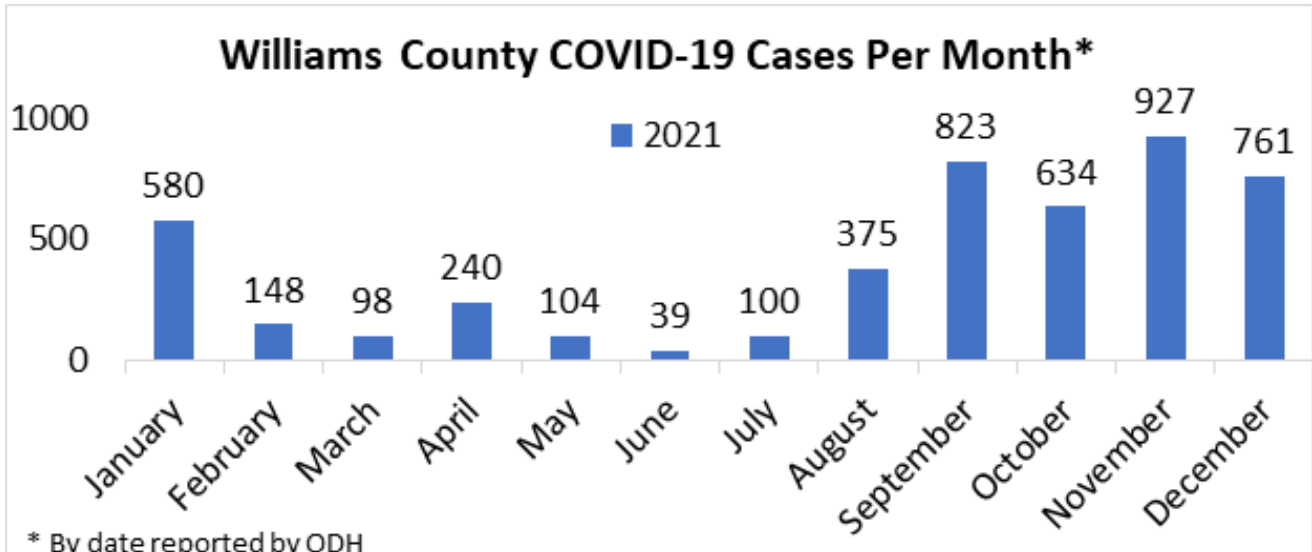


COVID-19 HIGHLIGHTS

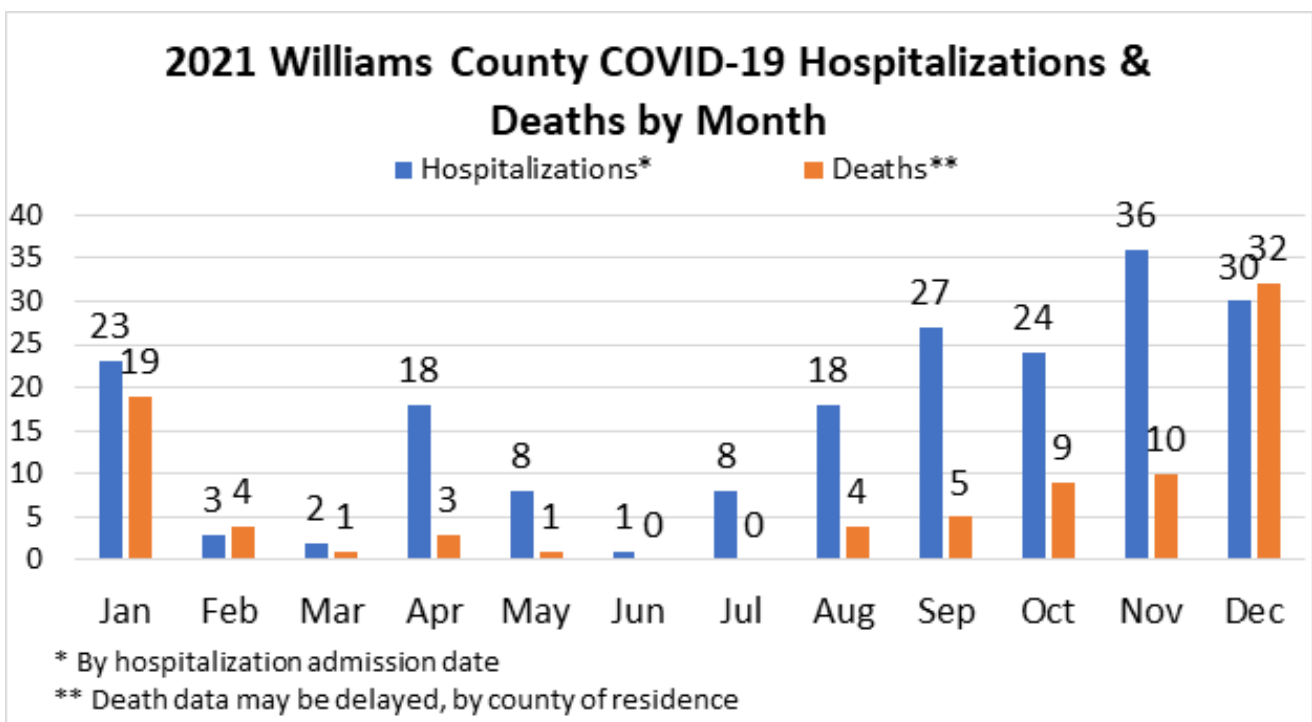
COVID-19 Case Data

COVID-19 continued to spread throughout Williams County in 2021. There were a total of 4,829 cases and unfortunately there were 198 hospitalizations and 88 deaths. The WCHD encouraged residents to receive a COVID-19 vaccination when eligible and to continue to practice mitigation measures such as social distancing, masking, hand washing, and avoiding crowds or large indoor gatherings.

- 2021 COVID-19 Case Data
 - 4,829 cases
 - 198 hospitalizations
 - 88 deaths



Number of COVID-19 cases among Williams County Residents per month.



Number of Williams County COVID-19 deaths and hospitalizations by month.

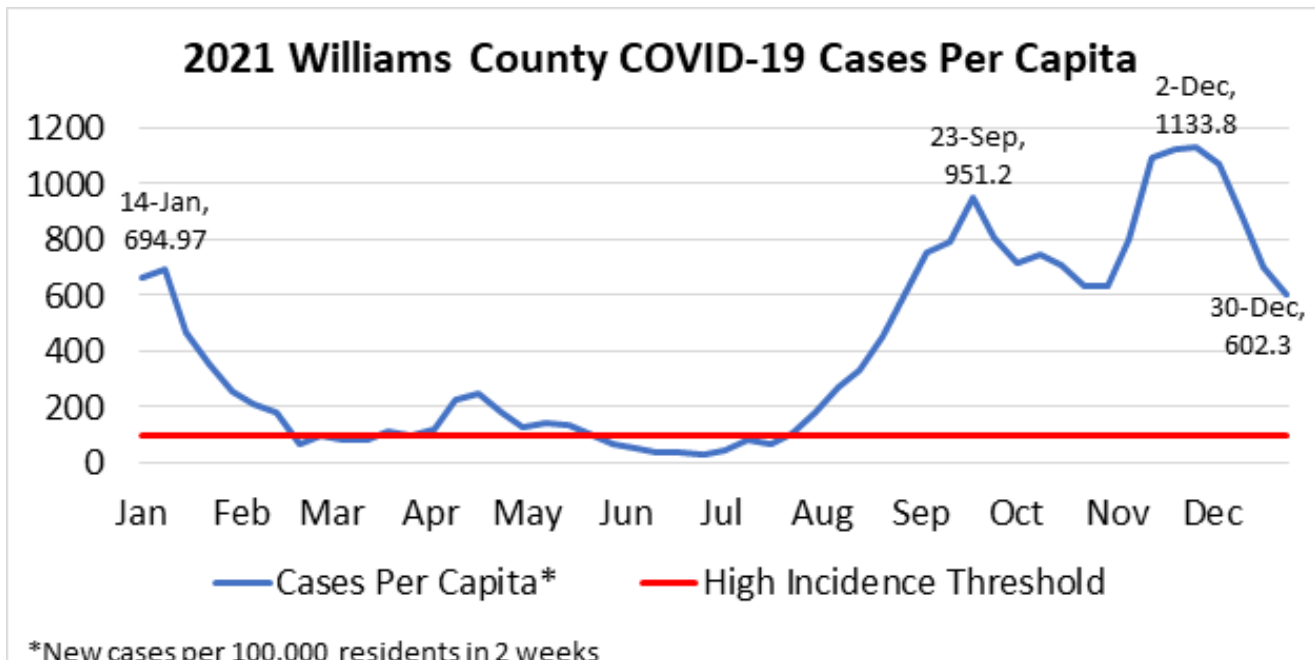
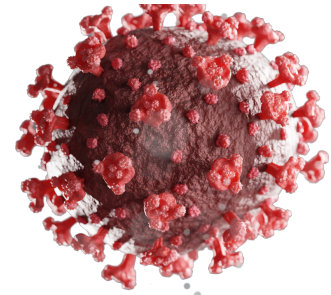
COVID-19 HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 Case Data (Continued)

Cases per capita shows how many cases have occurred in the last 14 days relative to the population of a county. Cases per capita gives you information about community transmission or the spread of disease. Using cases per capita allows counties with different population sizes to be appropriately compared. More cases means a greater potential for spread among individuals living in the county. If a community reaches 100 cases per 100,000 population in 2 weeks, it is considered high incidence (or high cases per capita) with a high risk of community spread.

Indicator	Total New Cases Per 100,000 Population in 14 days	Actual New Cases in Williams County in 14 days
Low Transmission	0 - 9.99 cases per capita	0 - 3
Moderate Transmission	10 - 49.99 cases per capita	4 - 18
Substantial Transmission	50 - 99.99 cases per capita	19 - 36
High Transmission	≥ 100 cases per capita	≥ 37

The chart indicates the number of cases per capita and the actual number of new cases in Williams County needed to be classified as low, moderate, substantial, or high transmission.



Cases per capita was charted over the course of the year as seen above. A decrease in cases was seen at the beginning of the year and into the warmer months, but there was a steep increase in cases per capita beginning in August. Williams County remained above the high incidence threshold the remainder of 2021.



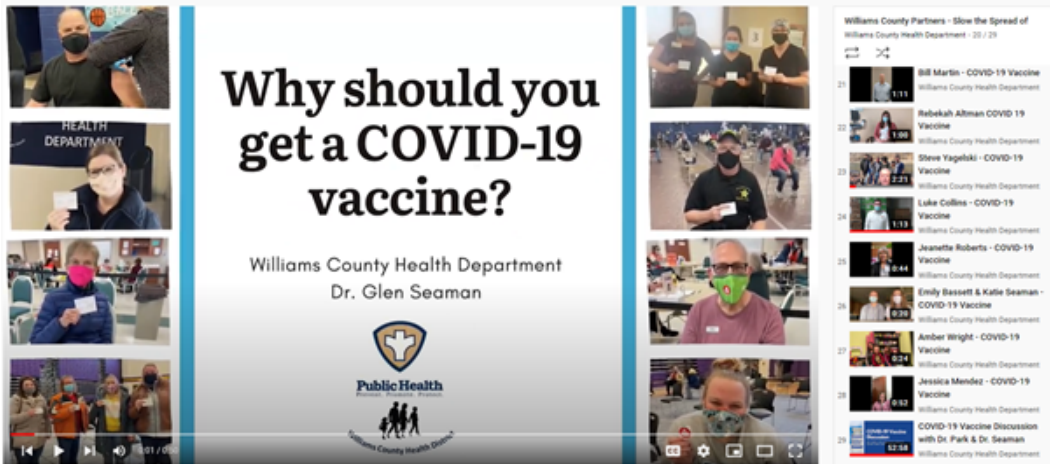
bit.ly/3MyxX7v

Scan the QR code or use the link to read the WTOL article about cases in Williams County from December 2021.

COVID-19 HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 Defense Team

In 2021, the COVID-19 Defense Team continued to meet regularly to review local COVID-19 data and discuss strategies for reducing the impact of COVID-19 in our community. Business leaders, county leadership, schools, medical providers, service agencies, and other members all contributed to the group. The COVID-19 Defense Team helped with local vaccination clinics and spread reliable information about COVID-19 vaccines.



Screenshot of a video that was developed with Dr. Glen Seaman and BMU to promote the COVID-19 vaccine



Poster that advertised COVID-19 vaccination clinics in Williams County

The COVID-19 Defense Team worked on a COVID-19 vaccine campaign to improve vaccination rates and answer questions about COVID-19. Videos and photos were collected from community members and local partners. These photos and videos were shared on social media and online. The team also coordinated Bryan Times interviews with local physicians. Dr. Seaman and Dr. Park were asked common questions about the COVID-19 vaccines and their responses were recorded and shared in local doctors' offices, online, social media, and in local businesses. The work that the COVID-19 Defense Team accomplished helped to spread information about COVID-19 vaccines throughout Williams County so that Williams County residents could make informed decisions about getting vaccinated.



Two examples of community members sharing their reasons for getting vaccinated against COVID-19.



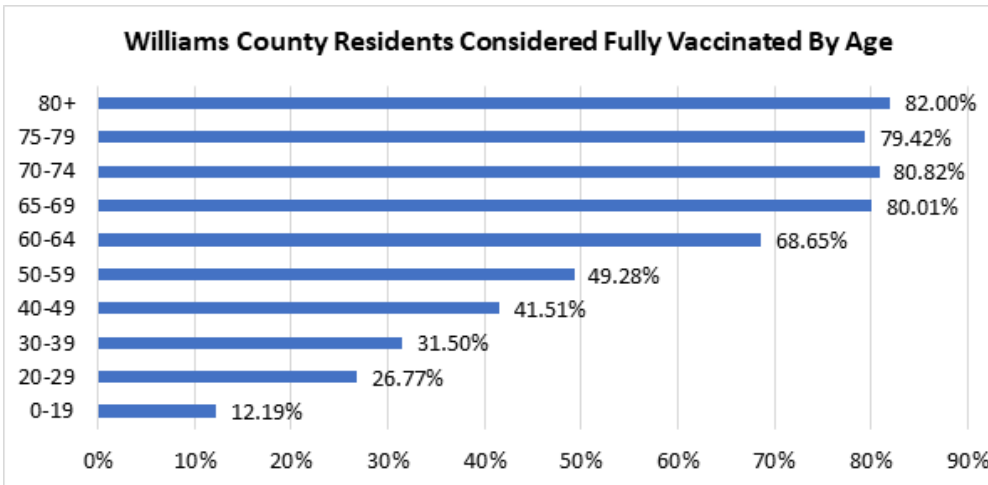
Flyer advertising the FAQ videos developed by the COVID-19 Defense Team, Dr. Park, and Dr. Seaman.

COVID-19 HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 Vaccination Data

Fully vaccinated individuals are those who received 1 dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine or 2 doses of the Pfizer or Moderna (mRNA) vaccines. Williams County's older community members led the COVID-19 vaccination efforts in the county.

This graph depicts the percentage of fully vaccinated Williams County residents by age.



Unpacking a COVID-19 vaccine shipment

COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Clinics

The Williams County Health Department hosted mass vaccination clinics for healthcare providers, teachers, and the general public in the first half of 2021. While vaccine supply was limited at the beginning of the year, we were able to host clinics each week to get Williams County vaccinated. The Ohio Department of health prioritized older and more at risk populations when vaccine supply was low, and opened vaccine eligibility by age group as supply increased. A timeline of when eligibility expanded can be found on page 10.



Mass vaccination clinic at Superior School, February 2021

The Bryan Senior Center, Bryan City Schools, and Montpelier Exempted Village School allowed their facilities to be used for mass vaccination clinics. Other important partners for these vaccination clinics were Williams County Emergency Management, Williams County Engineers, and Williams County Area Office on Aging.

COVID-19 mass vaccination clinics were held until May of 2021, and then transitioned to being in office at the WCHD.

- 23 mass vaccination clinics held in Williams County

COVID-19 HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Clinic & Call Center Volunteers

The mass vaccination clinics would not have been possible without Williams County volunteers. Volunteers helped with directing traffic, appointment check in, registration, vaccine administration, and observation. Volunteers were recruited by the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), social media, and a newspaper article in the Bryan Times. There were approximately 135 individuals that were interested in volunteering, and about 90 individuals that regularly volunteered at the mass vaccination clinics.

Some of the vaccine clinic vaccinators were nurses, pharmacists, and other healthcare professionals from area healthcare facilities, schools, and pharmacies. These individuals dedicated their time off to get Williams County residents vaccinated.



Scan the QR code or use the link to read the WTOL article about the call center. bit.ly/3MCLHhd

In order to schedule appointments for the mass vaccination clinics, a call center was established. Volunteers were also essential to the success of the call centers. These volunteers received calls from individuals interested in joining the waitlist for the COVID-19 vaccine and called individuals when they could schedule appointments.



Mass vaccination clinic at Bryan City Schools for Williams County teachers, February 2021

COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Clinic Visit from Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted

Lieutenant Governor Husted was vaccinated at a WCHD mass vaccinated clinic during a live press conference. His childhood babysitter, Shirley Fry, and Montpelier Mayor Steve Yagelski were also vaccinated during the press conference. This vaccine clinic was held at the Superior School building. Lt. Governor Husted received a Johnson & Johnson vaccine administered by WCHD nurse Tammy Riegsecker.



Scan the QR code or use the link to read the WTOL article about Husted's visit. bit.ly/3Kzc9a2



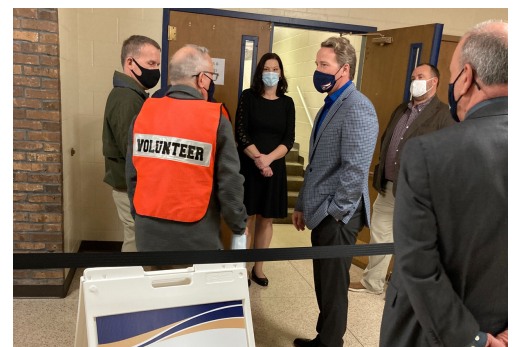
Scan the QR code or use the link to read the Bryan Times article about Husted's visit. bit.ly/3hRMtsG



Health Commissioner Jim Watkins and Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted at a mass vaccination clinic, March 11, 2021



Lt. Governor Husted receiving his vaccine during the live press conference.



Lt. Governor Husted talking with a volunteer at a mass vaccination clinic.

2021 COVID-19 VACCINE TIMELINE

COVID-19 Vaccines became available in late 2020 and over the course of 2021 more populations became eligible to be vaccinated. In Ohio, phases were created to determine when populations would become eligible for vaccination beginning with most at-risk populations.

- **January 15:** Ohioans ages 80 years and older may register for an appointment to receive a COVID-19 vaccine in Williams County
- **January 19:** Phase 1B: vaccine reserved for individuals aged 80 and older.
- **January 25:** Phase 1B: Ohioans aged 75 and older and anyone with a severe congenital or developmental disorder became eligible for the vaccine.
- **February 1:** Phase 1B: vaccine eligibility expanded to Ohioans aged 70 and older and K-12 staff and teachers who wanted to return to in-person instruction.
- **February 8:** Phase 1B: vaccine eligibility expanded to Ohioans aged 65 and older.
- **February 15:** Phase 1B: Ohioans born with or who have early childhood conditions that are carried into adulthood, which put them at a higher risk for adverse outcomes due to COVID-19 became eligible.
- **March 4:** Phase 1C: childcare workers, law enforcement and corrections officers, funeral service workers, pregnant women, people with ALS, type 1 diabetes, and those who have received bone marrow transplants became eligible for the vaccine. Phase 2A: people aged 60 and older became eligible for the vaccine.
- **March 11:** Phase 1D: those with type 2 diabetes, and those end-stage renal disease also became eligible to be vaccinated. Phase 2B: people aged 50 and older are eligible for the vaccine.
- **March 19:** Phase 1E: people with cancer, chronic kidney disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, heart disease, and obesity became eligible for vaccination. Phase 2C: People aged 40 and older are eligible for the vaccine.
- **March 22:** Children aged 16 and 17 can receive vaccinations when appointments are available.
- **March 29:** Phase 2D: all children 16 and older became eligible for the Pfizer vaccine.
- **May 10:** Children ages 12-15 became eligible for the Pfizer vaccine.
- **May 12:** The Vax-A-Million contest was announced by the Ohio Department of Health. Ohioans that received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine could enter the lottery to win one of five \$1,000,000 prizes, and students under age 18 could enter to win one of five full tuition scholarships to a state university.
- **July 28:** New vaccine incentive initiative for state employees that get vaccinated. Employees who get a vaccine received \$100 and their spouses could get \$25.
- **September 22:** U.S. Food and Drug Administration amended the emergency use authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to allow for use of a single booster dose, to be administered at least six months after completion of the primary series in: individuals 65 years of age and older; individuals 18 through 64 years of age at high risk of severe COVID-19; and individuals 18 through 64 years of age whose frequent institutional or occupational exposure to SARS-CoV-2 puts them at high risk of serious complications of COVID-19 including severe COVID-19.
- **October 20:** US FDA expanded the use of a COVID-19 booster in eligible populations.
- **November 2:** The CDC recommends that children ages 5-11 receive a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.
- **November 19:** CDC expanded recommendations for booster shots to include all adults ages 18 and older who received a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine at least six months after their second dose.
- **December 9:** The US FDA amended the EUA for the Pfizer vaccine to include a single dose booster for people 16 and 17 year old at least six months after completion of the primary vaccination series of the Pfizer vaccine.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Public health nurses strive to promote health and wellness within the Williams County community through a variety of services and programs. Public health nurses provide adult and childhood immunizations, investigate infectious diseases, provide education to families about lead poisoning in children, and connect children with special healthcare needs and their families with comprehensive care and services through the Children with Medical Handicaps Program.

Immunizations

The WCHD was able to resume immunizations in our office and at community locations in 2021 due to the COVID-19 vaccine becoming available to the general public. Senior center and workplace vaccination clinics were also held. Information about mass COVID-19 vaccine clinics can be found on pages 8 and 9.

When mass vaccination clinics ended, in office clinic days were established to provide the vaccine. The WCHD also offered the vaccine at community events throughout the summer like the Bryan Jubilee and the Bryan's Day-In The-Park. Clinics were also offered at local businesses for employees during work hours to make getting the vaccine as convenient for working adults as possible. Homebound individuals could contact the health department and schedule a time for a nurse to come to their residence and provide them with the vaccine.

The WCHD also partnered with local schools to provide drive-thru school vaccine clinics at school facilities to improve access for Williams County students.

**FREE COVID-19 VACCINES AT
Bryan's Day-In-The-Park**

Where: The Bryan Recreation Park
When: Saturday, June 26
3:45pm - 6:45pm

You can make an appointment online at bit.ly/WCVaccine or by calling 419-485-3141. Walk-ins also welcome!




Social media post advertising vaccinations at the Bryan's Day-In -The-Park



GET YOUR BACK-TO-SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS AT YOUR SCHOOL

Attention Parents and Caregivers

The Williams County Health Department and School Districts are hosting:

DRIVE THROUGH IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

These clinics will be available to make immunizations more accessible to students in safe and convenient environment.

Location: Please see locations listed below.

Call for appointment: To decrease traffic and maintain safety, you must call the Health Department at 419-485-3141 to preregister to schedule a date/time/place. **No walk-ins accepted.**

Who is eligible? School age children needing immunizations.

Cost: Insurance billed, but no one will be turned away due to inability to pay.

Montpelier Schools

Located at WCHD

Date: July 29th
310 Lincoln Ave.
Montpelier, OH 43543

Edon Schools

Date: August 3rd (am)

802 W. Indiana St.
Edon, OH 43518
(use main entrance)

Edgerton Schools

Date: August 3rd (pm)

111 E. River St.
Edgerton, OH 43517
(use HS entrance)

North Central Schools

Date: August 5th

400 E. Baubice St.
Pioneer, OH 43554
(use north entrance)



MASKS ARE REQUIRED

Bryan Schools

Date: August 10th

1000 W. Fountain Grove Dr.
Bryan, OH 43506
(use MS/HS entrance)

Stryker Schools

Date: August 12th (am)

400 S. Defiance St.
Stryker, OH 43557
(use elementary entrance)

Hilltop Schools

Date: August 12th (pm)

1401 W. Jackson St.
West Unity, OH 43570
(use elementary entrance)

Call WCHD at (419) 485-3141 to schedule an appointment!



Advertisement for the drive-thru school vaccination clinics

Edgerton Senior Center Flu Clinic



The WCHD will be providing flu shots for seniors at the Edgerton Senior Center.

Thursday, September 23
10:00am - 11:00am

For more information, call 419-485-3141



Social media post advertising one of the senior center flu vaccine clinic

- 1,678 Immunizations provided by WCHD
- 6 Drive-thru school immunization clinics
- 7 senior center flu immunization clinics

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

W.I.C.: Women, Infants, and Children is a nutrition education program that has served families with children less than 5 years old and pregnant women for 37 years in Bryan and Montpelier. W.I.C. provides nutrition and breastfeeding education and support; supplemental, highly nutritious foods; referrals to prenatal and pediatric healthcare and other maternal and child health and health and human service programs; and immunization screening and referrals. Participants can also use a debit card to redeem benefits at local grocery stores.



Changes were made to WIC appointments due to COVID-19. Federal waivers allowed WIC not to have to measure (height/weight) and complete a hemoglobin test on participants. Also, no physical signatures were needed by the participants. This meant that WIC staff only had in-person interaction for about 10-15 minutes for food issuance and card loading. Health Assessments were done over the phone prior to the food issuance scheduled appointment. The participants were provided links to watch videos and other multimedia ahead of the actual in-person visit which made this encounter shorter during COVID-19 outbreaks.

- 595 clients each month
- 428 new certifications
- 211 average participants each month
- 31 breast pumps issued
- 56% of participants breastfeed
- \$1,680 of coupons given to use at Local Farmers' Markets

At the Montpelier Office, staff met clients outside in the parking lot for curbside service. During bad weather days, after the health department opened the building to the public again, participants were scheduled when others would not be in the lobby and were required to wear a mask.



WIC curbside appointment sign



- New additions to the food list: Cheese
- Increased dollars in vouchers for fruits & vegetables

At the Bryan Office, participants were able to come into the clinic lobby wearing a mask. A glass barrier with an opening was between the participant and staff. Participants were told over the phone to only have one person attend the appointment if possible, but if a family had to bring their children this was allowed. Breastfeeding and latch issues along with pump instruction appointments are typically 30 to 90 minutes. During COVID-19, these sessions were broken into 15-minute intervals with the breastfeeding peer and/or health professional leaving the room when possible to help prevent extended exposure.



Billboard on SR 34E/O SR 15 in Bryan to promote breastfeeding during breastfeeding awareness month, August 2021.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

ECHO Coalition



Educating Communities on Healthy Opportunities (ECHO) is a prevention coalition with the mission to promote and advocate for healthy lifestyles free from substance abuse in youth and adults in Williams County.

The ECHO Coalition has two goals:

1. Establish and strengthen collaboration in the community to prevent substance abuse.
2. Reduce youth marijuana, prescription drug, and alcohol use.

Currently, the coalition is focused on preventing use of marijuana, tobacco including electronic vaping products, and alcohol among youth.

\$125,000 was awarded to the ECHO coalition by the Office of National Drug Control Policy's Drug Free Communities (DFC) Support Program. The program funds community-based coalitions that engage twelve sectors of the community to prevent youth substance use.

Twelve sectors:

- Youth
- Parents
- Businesses
- Media
- School
- Youth-serving organizations
- Other organizations involved in reducing illicit substance use
- Law enforcement
- Religious/fraternal organizations
- Civic and volunteer organizations
- Health care professionals
- State, local, and Tribal governments



- "Hidden in Plain Sight" was presented at 8 community events
- Escape the Vape prevention experience was completed at 2 schools and 1 community event

The ECHO Coalition also received \$1,000 from the United Way for Youth-led Programming and Prevention Campaigns. The Youth In Action and Awareness Team at Bryan and Montpelier Schools worked to address topics relevant to their lives with four awareness campaigns in the 2021-2022 school year.



Hidden in Plain Sight set up at the Williams County Fair



Great American Smoke Out table set up at Montpelier Schools

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Children with Medical Handicaps

The Children with Medical Handicaps Program (CMH) links families of children with special health care needs to a network of CMH approved providers and helps families obtain payment for the services their children need. CMH promotes early identification of children with medical conditions and treatment of those children by CMH approved health care providers.



- 88 children served in 2021 through the CMH program

Childhood Lead Poisoning

There is no “safe” level of lead in the blood – any confirmed level is an indication that the person has been exposed. Guidance was changed at the end of 2021 that children with levels above 3mcg/dL should be monitored to increase the number of children being followed. Lead poisoning has no treatment or cure and can leave individuals with permanent cognitive damage and delays.



Prevent Childhood Lead Poisoning

Exposure to lead can seriously harm a child's health.

- Damage to the brain and nervous system
- Slowed growth and development
- Learning and behavior problems
- Hearing and speech problems

This can cause:

- Lower IQ
- Decreased ability to pay attention
- Underperformance at school

Lead can be found throughout a child's environment.

Source: EPA

- 8 children followed in 2021 to monitor their elevated lead levels
 - 5 cases of elevated blood lead levels 5-9 mcg/dL
 - 2 cases of elevated blood lead levels 10-30 mcg/dL
 - 1 case of elevated blood lead levels above 30mcg/dL (level was 46 mcg/dL)

Narcan Distribution to Law Enforcement and EMS

Narcan is an opioid overdose reversal drug intended to prevent overdose deaths. Administering Narcan restores normal breathing to someone who has overdosed within 2-3 minutes.

- 158 doses of Narcan nasal spray distributed to law enforcement in Williams County
 - 15 doses of Narcan were administered by law enforcement
- 20 doses of Narcan nasal spray distributed to EMS
 - 3 doses were administered by EMS



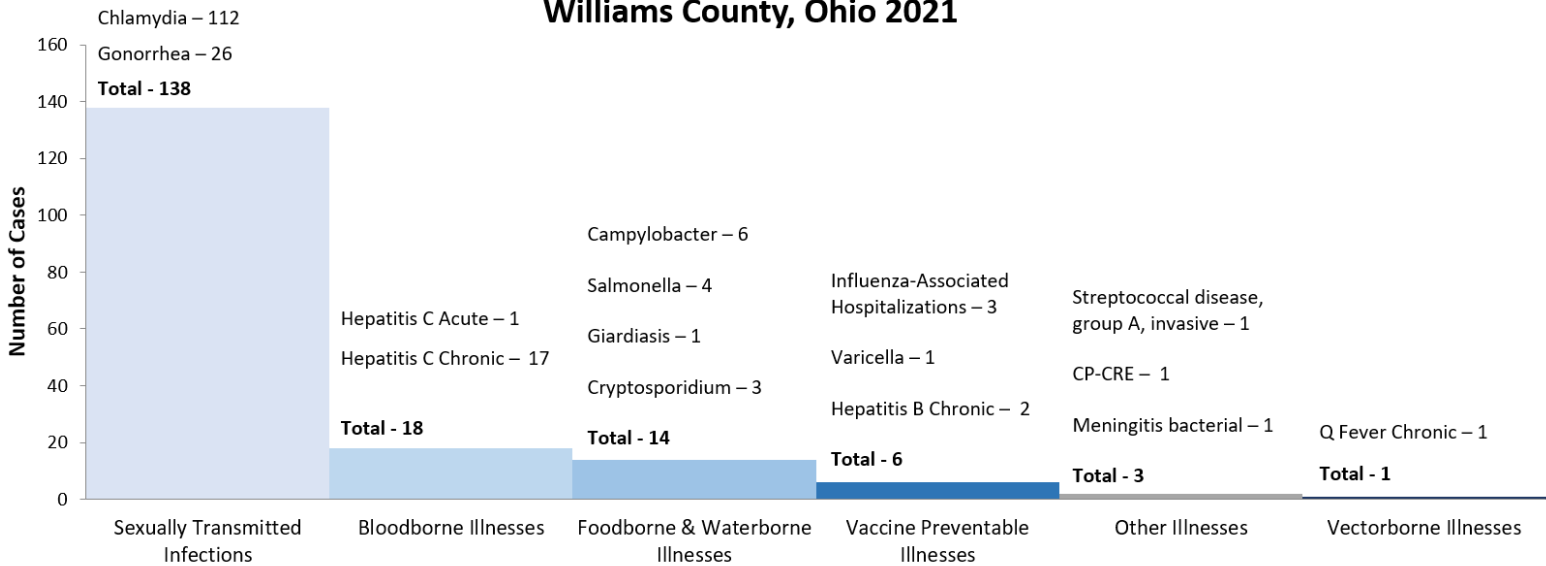
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

Infectious Disease

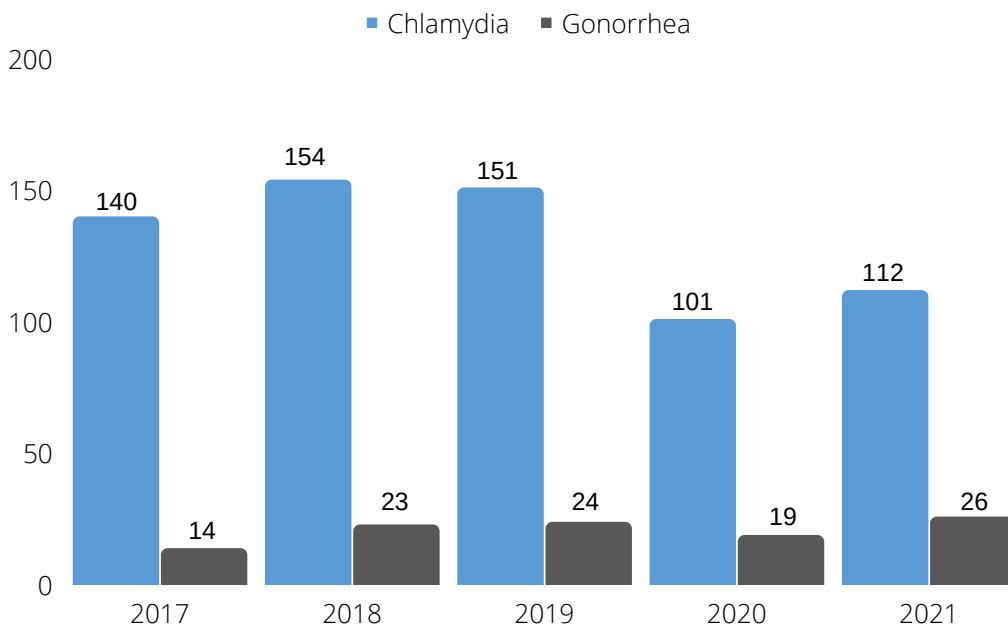
180 total cases of non-COVID-19 infectious diseases were reported to the Williams County Health Department in 2021. Chlamydia was the most reported infectious disease. Information about COVID-19 cases can be found on pages 5 and 6.

Infectious diseases can be prevented with vaccines, proper hygiene practices, safe water and food, and safe sex practices.

Infectious Diseases Reported in Williams County, Ohio 2021



Case counts include Williams County Residents. Includes probable and confirmed disease classifications. Data is preliminary and subject to change.



Chlamydia and gonorrhea are two sexually transmitted infections (STIs) that can be prevented with safe sex practices such as using condoms correctly every time. Chlamydia and gonorrhea have been the most reported non-COVID infectious diseases in Williams County during the past 5 years.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Public Health (EPH) Division is responsible for implementing a broad range of programs that are designed to protect and promote public health throughout Williams County. Through inspections, investigations, consults and education the goal of the EPH Division is to maintain compliance with regulations while providing the best possible service to the residents of our county.

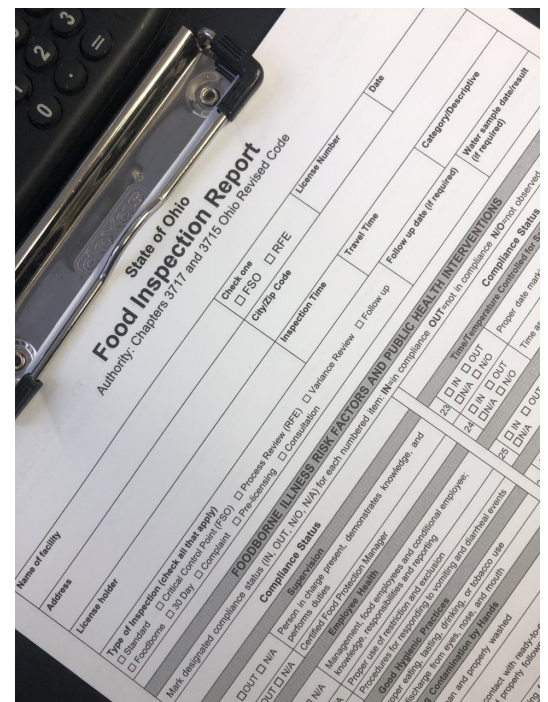
Food Safety Program

The Environmental Health Division is responsible for the licensing and inspection of food service operations, retail food establishments, and foodborne illness outbreaks. In 2021, food facility inspections were down, partially from event cancellations and some facilities operating differently than they had traditionally due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The WCHD worked with facilities to provide flexibility during the difficult times that many facilities were facing.

Many businesses encountered staffing issues, decreased business, supply shortages, and other challenges due to COVID-19. The WCHD has a duty to ensure that facilities operate at an acceptable level to maintain compliance with the Ohio Food Code and serve safe food to their customers.

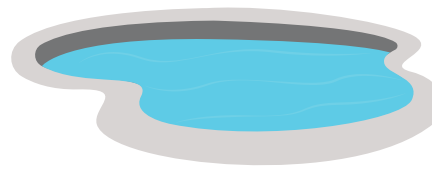
During 2021, WCHD had to suspend the Food Service Operation Licenses of two facilities. A follow-up inspection was conducted by WCHD staff following each suspension and both suspensions were lifted after the operators had corrected the critical food safety issues.

- 244 food inspections were completed
- 16 food plan reviews



Recreational Programs

Public and commercial swimming pools and spas are a source of leisure, recreation, exercise, and therapy for many residents throughout our county. Each facility is licensed and inspected by the Environmental Public Health Division to assure pool safety for the public. Campgrounds, body art facilities, and schools are also inspected.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Private Water Systems (PWS)

The PWS program works to ensure that homeowners and businesses have properly constructed water sources that meet Ohio's sanitary regulations. The regulation of wells, springs, rainwater cisterns, hauled water storage tanks and ponds that provide potable water to fewer than 25 people per day and have fewer than 15 service connections are required to be permitted through WCHD.



The Ohio Department of Health released revised rules, effective January 1, 2020. The rules are filed under Ohio Administrative Code 3701-28 and requires any person working on a private water system (well, pump, pressure tank, pressure switch, etc.) to be a Registered Private Water Systems contractor with the Ohio Department of Health.

Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF)

Williams County Health Department was again awarded \$150,000.00 in funds for 2021 through the Ohio EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) WPCLF Program. WCHD has administered this program since 2016 to assist homeowners in replacing their failing septic systems. Through these funds, plus the additional \$250,000.00 awarded to WCHD in 2021 from the H2Ohio Program, WCHD has provided over \$910,000.00 in assistance to Williams County residents. By the end of 2022, we will exceed one million dollars invested back into our county through these programs.



Sewage Treatment System Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Program

2021 was the third year of the Williams County sewage treatment system Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Program. We issued 1,142 permits for septic systems in Brady, Superior, and St. Joseph townships.

The next group in 2022 includes Center and Pulaski townships, with an estimated 1400 properties. Permit applications will be mailed late summer/early fall and will be due by December 31st.

- 47 well permits issued
- 37 septic sites reviewed
- 35 septic systems designed
- 40 septic permits issued
- 1,142 sewage treatment system operations permits issued

HEALTH EDUCATION & PREPAREDNESS

The Health Education and Preparedness Division promotes health and wellness within the Williams County community by providing population-level services to prevent chronic diseases and unintentional injuries, provide health and education services, and to promote maternal, child, and youth health through evidence-based initiatives. The Health Education and Preparedness division also works to prepare Williams County for emerging public health concerns, to educate and increase public awareness on solid waste reduction and recycling, and to increase community involvement in order to achieve health equity. The Health Education and Preparedness division also oversees the coordination of partners and state agencies in order to collect and analyze local data for effectively designing, implementing, and evaluating community-wide health initiatives and programs.

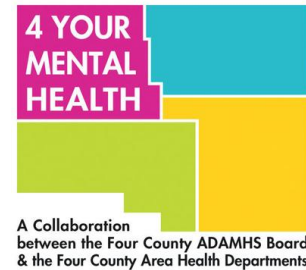
The Division has been working on the COVID-19 response by focusing on communications, analyzing data, managing and distributing personal protective equipment, and planning COVID-19 test sites and vaccination clinics in Williams County.

4YourMentalHealth Campaign

The #4YourMentalHealth campaign utilizes billboards, social media, TV streaming ads, and targeted emails to share coping skills that help to improve mental health. The ads target Williams, Henry, Fulton, and Defiance County residents by zip code. The campaign also partnered with the Suicide Prevention Coalition to create 3 billboard designs sharing the Crisis Text Line and Suicide Prevention Lifeline.



One of the 15 billboards that was displayed in Williams County



- 15 billboards in Williams County
- 123 WCHD social media posts

Suicide Prevention Coalition

The Williams County Health Department recognizes the need to improve mental health in our community. WCHD partners with the Suicide Prevention Coalition to increase awareness, decrease stigma, and provide resources to those who need help. In 2021, WCHD participated in the Four County Suicide Prevention Breakfast that was held for representatives from schools, churches, court, businesses, and other sectors. The event was used to bring awareness about the issue of suicide in our community and provide community members with resources to help others.



SPONSORED BY: The project is funded by the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation with grants and support from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

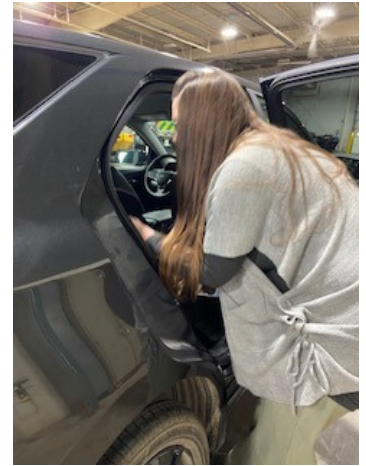
Social media post promoting the Annual Suicide Prevention Breakfast

HEALTH EDUCATION & PREPAREDNESS

Child Passenger Safety Program

The Child Passenger Safety program works to prevent injury and improve the safety of all youth while in motor vehicles. Our certified child passenger safety technicians (CPST) have completed extensive training on the selection, use, and installation of car seats and work to educate caregivers on these topics. CPSTs provide free educational sessions and car seat checks to any individual transporting children in car seats. Through the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes program, free car seats and hands-on education are provided to families in Williams County.

Hands-on education had been suspended due to COVID-19 and made providing education to caregivers more difficult. Education was provided through email and over the phone. If a car seat was needed, caregivers would complete the education ahead of time and then schedule a time to pick up the car seat from the health department. Hands-on education was resumed in mid-2021. In the summer and early fall, all appointments were held fully outdoors in the parking lot. In the winter, appointments were able to begin in the lobby before moving to the parking lot for the car seat installation.



JFS employee installing a car seat at a training

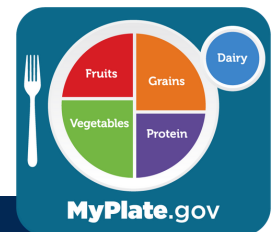


- 16 car seats distributed for Williams County children
- 24 seat checks/educational sessions were completed
- 1 training event was done with 11 JFS employees who transport children

MyPlate Nutrition Programs

The 3rd Grade MyPlate Program is funded by the Four County ADAMhs board, in partnership with United Way, in order for the Williams County Health Department to educate children about healthy nutrition habits to reduce childhood obesity and improve mental health. The program is implemented in 3rd grade classrooms in Williams County schools thanks to working in partnership with the schools. The program includes 4 interactive educational session and students receive a MyPlate to utilize at meals and a \$10 voucher to purchase produce at a local grocery store.

In Spring 2021 the program was offered to classrooms for in-person presentations or virtual presentations. In Fall 2021, the program was again offered in-person or virtually and the taste test activity for the 4th session was offered.



Session 4 of the MyPlate program in a Montpelier 3rd grade classroom

- 800 students participated in MyPlate
- 7 schools participated in the MyPlate Programs
- 68 MyPlate sessions were taught to 17 3rd grade classrooms

The K-6 MyPlate program is implemented by physical education teachers year-round at Montpelier Exempted Village Schools and North Central Elementary in Williams County. The K-6 MyPlate curriculum is provided by the Williams County Health Department and funded by CHWC.

HEALTH EDUCATION & PREPAREDNESS

Maternal and Child Health Program

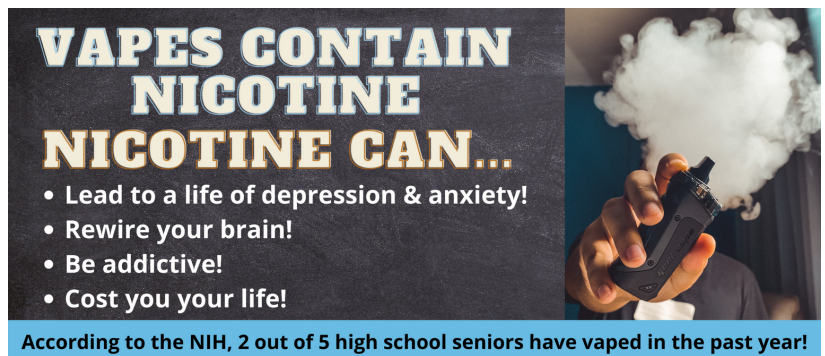
The WCHD was awarded the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Program Grant in 2021. The grant uses a combination of federal and state monies to offer public health services for the maternal and child health populations. This year, the focus of the grant was on adolescent health evidence-based resiliency projects to support the identification and implementation of prevention activities.

An advisory committee was developed and, due to the growing need for vaping prevention for Williams County adolescents, an evidence-based program, CATCH My Breath, was selected for implementation. The CATCH My Breath program was implemented in 9 classrooms in 2021 at Bryan City Schools and Montpelier Exempted Village Schools. Approximately 165 students completed the program in 2021.



All Williams County 7th-12th grade students were invited to participate in a vaping prevention billboard design contest. The winning design was used for a billboard on SR 15 between Bryan and Montpelier in the month of December. Fourteen submissions were received from students at Bryan City Schools, Montpelier Exempted Village Schools, and the Four County Career Center.

- Congrats to the Billboard Design Contest Winners!
 - Mya Bauer, Bryan City Schools
 - Ashley Lockwood, Four County Career Center
 - Brian Oliphant, Montpelier Exempted Village Schools



Winning design by Mya Bauer

Community Outreach

During the summer, bike helmets were given to children for free at two different community events. The helmets were awarded by the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics as part of the "Put a Lid On It" campaign. The first event where helmets were distributed was the Kaleb McLaughlin Ride To Remember Event in July. Helmets were given for free to children who attended the event. Helmets were also distributed during Kids Day at the Williams County Fair. Helmets were sized for the children and educational materials about helmet and bike safety were also distributed.

Also during the summer, Bryan Safety Town requested poison safety presentations for the children completing the Safety Town program. In June and July, there were six "Pretty Poison" presentations with the Safety Town Groups. The children attending Safety Town participated in an interactive presentation and an activity discussing poison safety.



Taylor Pratt assisting a child putting on the helmet received at the Ride to Remember Event

HEALTH EDUCATION & PREPAREDNESS

Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling

The Williams County Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling Program is a comprehensive program designed to educate and increase public awareness about solid waste reduction and recycling. The program provides educational information and materials to promote the 3 "R's" Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle through media advertising such as newspaper, radio, and internet.



- Recycling through partnerships
 - 1,768 lbs of dry cell batteries in cooperation with Bryan City Recycling
 - 3292 light bulbs
 - 2,085 pounds of motor oil through the Williams County Engineer's Office

- Materials Collected at Recycling Trailers
 - Paper
 - Steel and aluminum cans
 - Newspaper
 - Cardboard
 - #1 & #2 plastic bottles



Tires collected at a tire recycling event



Electronics collected at an electronics recycling event



The old oil collected through the partnership with the County Engineer's Office is used to heat the County Engineer's Office during some winter months.

- Newspaper Advertisements
 - Lake Seneca Drop Off
 - Electronics Recycling Events
 - Glass Drop Off
 - Motor Oil Drop Off Event
 - Tire Recycling Event
 - Christmas Lights Drop Off
 - Cell Phone Recycling

OIL RECYCLING EVENT

Date: Tuesday, September 7
Time: 8:30am - 3:00pm
Location: County Engineer's Office
12953 County Road G, Bryan OH 43506

Oil must be brought to the East side garage entrance, and given to a staff member of the Engineer's Office.
Oil brought to be recycled cannot have any other chemical or water mixed in it. Antifreeze cannot be recycled.

Questions? Contact Mike Shultz at 419-485-3141 ext. 123 or Steve Humphrey at 419-636-2454

Oil recycling event newspaper ad

October Recycling Event Collects Over 8 Tons of Electronics

That's more than the weight of a medium size farm tractor!

Medium Size Farm Tractor

15,000+ POUNDS

<

Recyclable Electronics Collected

16,569 POUNDS

- 165,410 pounds of materials were recycled by the WCHD Recycling Program
- 16,546 pounds of material collected by the recycling trailer in all 10 collection sites
- 94,000 pounds of tires collected at the Tire Recycling Drop Off Event
- 36,748 pounds of electronics collected at electronics recycling events

HEALTH EDUCATION & PREPAREDNESS

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

MRC is a network of volunteers, organized locally to improve the health and safety of the community by improving emergency response capabilities, and building community resiliency.

The MRC Volunteers assisted with the COVID-19 mass vaccine clinics. The corps was disbanded due to low enrollment after mass vaccination clinics were complete.

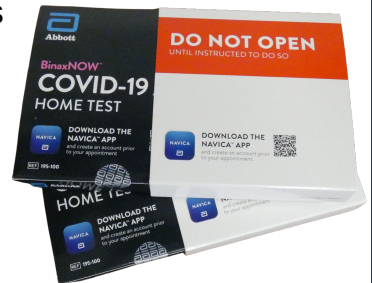


Emergency Preparedness

The Emergency Preparedness program helps Williams County to prevent, prepare for, and respond to health-related emergencies by creating local plans and partnerships. Public health emergency planning encompasses all aspects of planning for health and natural emergencies and coordination of agency response to a wide variety of scenarios. The health department works to engage the whole community and its partners to create strong connections that make us all safer and build a state of community preparedness.

The COVID-19 response included the following activities:

- Coordinate COVID at home rapid test kit dispensing for over 12,000 test kits
- Coordinate COVID Pop Up Test Sites with National Guard and local partners
- Coordinate personal protective equipment deliveries with Bryan Truck Line and Emergency Management from the State of Ohio
- Personal protective equipment training and education support
- Mass vaccination planning and coordination with Command Staff, Emergency Management, Montpelier Schools, and Bryan City Schools



Vaccine clinic at Bryan City Schools



A Pop Up Testing Site was hosted at the Williams County Fairgrounds with the National Guard.

- **Exercise Team**
 - Coordinate the creation of an Emergency Exercise Design and Implementation Team
 - Team planned and conducted a discussion exercise with Edon School
 - Team planning a full-scale exercise with Edon School



Vaccine POD (Point of Distribution) set up at Bryan City Schools

HEALTH EDUCATION & PREPAREDNESS

Safe Communities

Williams County Safe Communities is a data driven initiative to save lives and reduce traffic related injuries by building collaboration between state, county and local community partners. Williams County Safe Communities promotes traffic safety awareness countywide focusing on the following five areas:

1. Increasing seat belt usage
2. Increasing seat belt awareness
3. Increasing impaired/distracted driving awareness
4. Increasing motorcycle safety awareness
5. Coalition building and fatal data review



- **Media Outreach**
 - 14 news releases
 - 10 PSAs
 - 70 social media posts

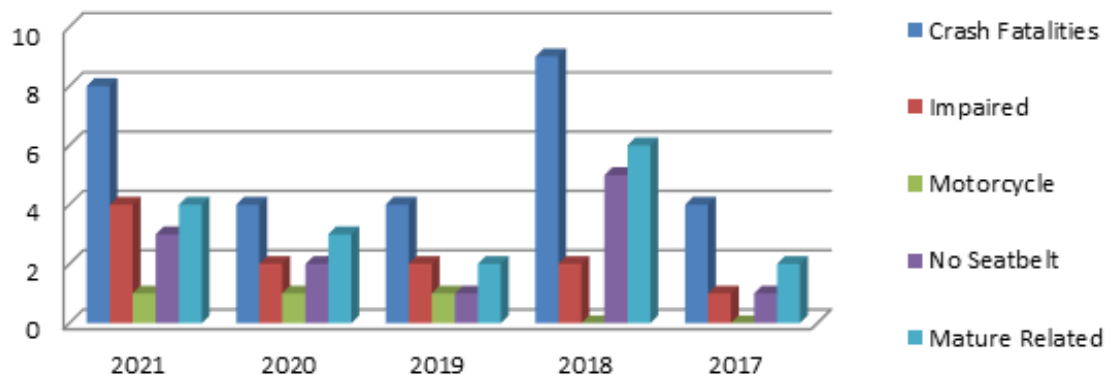
Williams County Safe Communities Coalition and Fatal Data Review met four times through virtual platforms. Our local media and radio station partnerships helped provide a viable means to communicate our traffic safety message outreach to our community.

In 2021, there were a total of 1,238 crashes. There were 25 serious injuries suspected, 172 minor injuries suspected, 54 possible injuries, and 980 with property damage only. Seven crashes were fatal crashes with eight fatalities.

- **8 traffic fatalities in Williams County**
 - 4 alcohol related
 - 3 without seat belt use
 - 1 motorcycle fatality
 - 4 mature driver related

- **6,203 traffic safety materials distributed**
 - fact cards
 - magnets
 - coasters
 - banners
 - flyers

Williams County Crash Fatalities

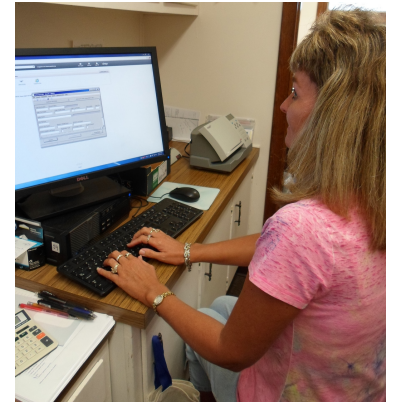


Students from Bryan City Schools participating in an outreach activity

Seatbelt use rate in Williams County is 89.2%

VITAL STATISTICS

The Williams County Health District maintains birth and death records occurring in Williams County beginning in 1909 to present. The Vital Statistics division is able to issue certified birth certificates for anyone born in the state of Ohio. Vital Statistics electronically maintains all birth records filed in Ohio after December 20, 1908 and an index of all death records filed in Ohio after January 1, 1964. In 2021, there were 2,159 birth certificates issued and 1,368 death certificates issued.



2021 Births

- 300 babies were born in Williams County in 2021
 - 23 babies born to mothers aged 19 and under



• Top baby names of 2021

- Ava
- Hazel
- Nova
- Oliver
- Everett
- Leo

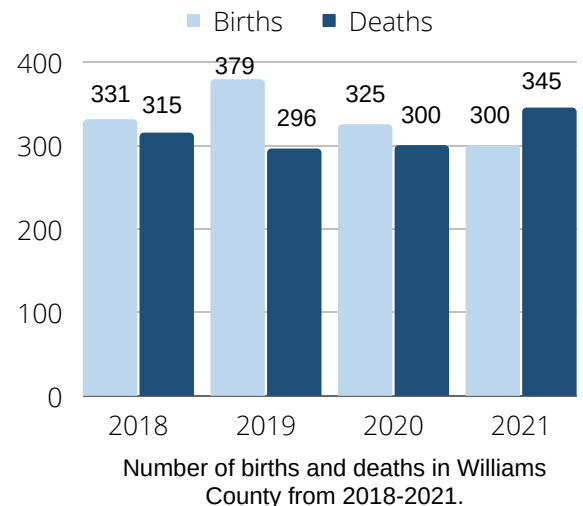
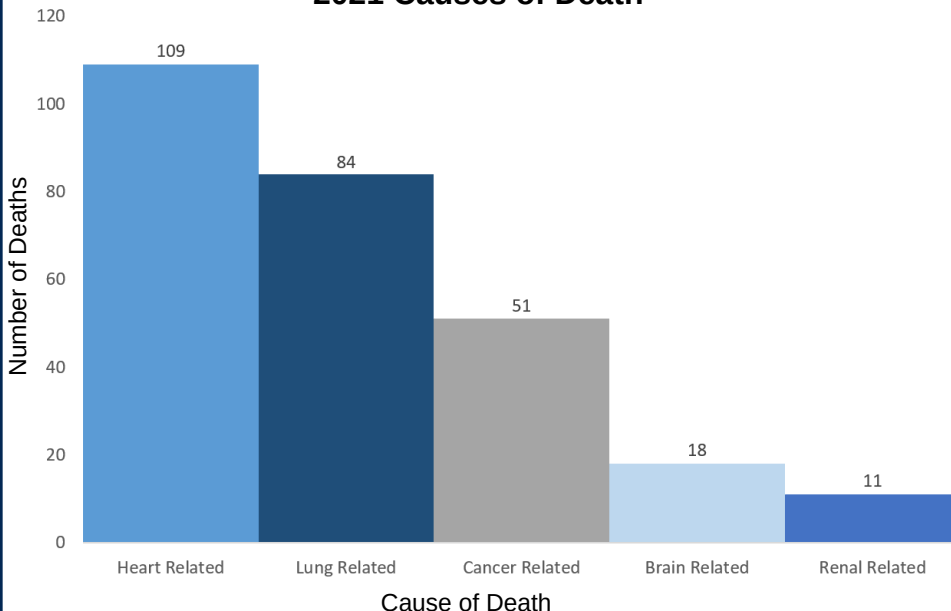


2021 Deaths

- 345 people died in Williams County in 2021
 - 88 COVID-19 related deaths
 - 6 suicide deaths
 - 7 accidental drug overdose deaths

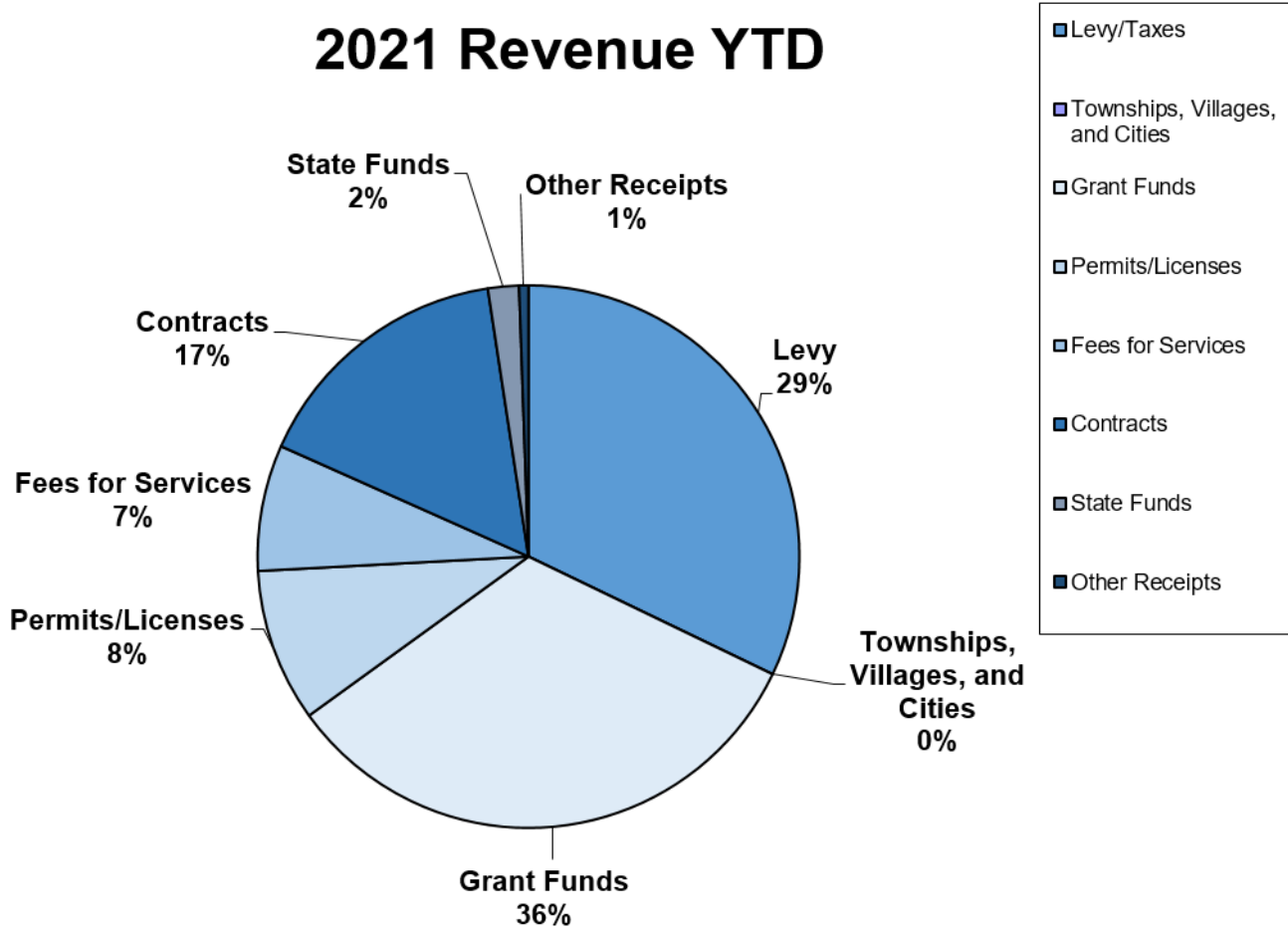
In 2021, there were more deaths than births which is not a normal trend for Williams County. The increase in deaths is likely caused by the increase in COVID-19 related deaths that took place in 2021 with about 25% of all deaths being COVID-19 related.

2021 Causes of Death



FINANCIAL REPORT

2021 Revenue YTD



2021 Expenses YTD

