



Shawn Davis, Chair
Bebe Kleinman, Vice Chair
Kristine Burrows
Dr. Mark Levine
Terrence Walker
Michelle Weinraub
Mark Mcmillan

Arapahoe County

Arapahoe County Board of Health

Agenda

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

3:00 PM

Public Health - Willow
DOC Conference Room

The public is welcome to attend the Board of Health meeting in the Arapahoe Board Room, located at 6954 S Lima St, Centennial CO 80112 or virtually on Teams

The Board of Health agenda and materials can be viewed online at

<https://arapahoe.legistar.com/Calendar>.

You may also listen to, or speak at, the meeting by calling 1 719 569 5048 and entering the Conference ID: 443 152 952# when prompted.

1. ***CALL TO ORDER**

2. ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February Meeting Minutes

[24-183](#)

Attachments: [BOH_Meeting_Minutes_20240221](#)

3. ***PUBLIC COMMENT**

Individuals are invited to speak to the Board of Health about any topic. Each person has a 3 minute time limit for comments, unless otherwise noted by the Chair. Individuals must state their name and address for the record prior to making remarks. Virtual public comment is allowed during Citizen Comment Period by calling 1 719 569 5048 and entering the Conference ID: 443 152 952# when prompted. The last four digits of the number you are calling from will be called when it is your turn to speak.

4. ***GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS**

4.a. Budget Committee

5. ***STUDY SESSIONS**

5.a. Arapahoe County Community Health Assessment Findings

[24-184](#)

Attachments: [Mar, 2024 - CHA Update to BOH v.1](#)

5.b. Communicable Disease Epidemiology (CDE) Program Overview

[24-185](#)

Attachments: [2024.03_Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program BOH Presentation](#)

5.c. ACPH Director's Report - March 20th, 2024[24-186](#)**Attachments:** [BOH_Director's Report_20240330](#)**6. Administrative Session****6.a.** Human Resources Overview - Director Evaluation Process**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION AND COUNTY ATTORNEY LEGAL MEETING**

As required by law, specific agenda topics will be announced in open meeting prior to the commencement of the closed and confidential portion of this session. C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4).

8. *ADJOURN

Arapahoe County is committed to making its public meetings accessible to persons of all abilities. Please contact the Board of Health at 303 734 5412 or BoardOfHealth@arapahoegov.com, at least three (3) days prior to a meeting, should you require special accommodations.

***Items marked with an asterisk will be live streamed for public viewing.**



Arapahoe County

5334 South Prince Street
Littleton, CO 80120
303-795-4630
Relay Colorado 711

Board Summary Report

File #: 24-183

Agenda Date: 3/20/2024

Agenda #:



Shawn Davis, Chair
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Arapahoe County

Arapahoe County Board of Health

Meeting Minute Summaries

Wednesday, February 21, 2024
3:00 PM

Public Health - Willow
DOC Conference Room

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https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OTZIYTI2ZmUtNmMyYy00MTVILWlXMWETNmNhZGFhYTZhMWU1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2257d7b626-d71d-47f6-84c1-c43bda19ba16%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22c0695c0a-202a-41ae-9aa5-a71df8e21ec2%22%7d. The Board of Health agenda and materials can be viewed online at <https://arapahoe.legistar.com/Calendar>.
You may also listen to, or speak at, the meeting by calling 1-719-569-5048 and entering the Conference ID: 443 152 952# when prompted.

1. *CALL TO ORDER

Present Shawn Davis, Kristine Burrows, Terrence Walker, Michelle Weinraub, Mark Mcmillan, and Mark Levine
Abs/Exc Bebe Kleinman

2. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Levine, that the January minutes be approved.
The motion carried.
Aye: Davis, Burrows, Walker, Weinraub, Mcmillan, and Levine

Attachments: [BOH Meeting Minutes 20240117](#)

3. *PUBLIC COMMENT

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There was no public comment at this time.

4. *GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS**4.a.**

A motion was made by Davis, seconded by Walker, that the Englewood Office Hours be amended.

Aye: Davis, Burrows, Walker, Weinraub, Mcmillan, and Levine

5. *STUDY SESSIONS**5.a. General Budget Process Review (Deep Dive) and FY 25 Timeline**

Attachments: [BOH_FY24 Budget Deep Dive Presentation_20240221](#)

The purpose of this presentation is to present and review the Department's budget process and FY25 timeline.

5.b. Arapahoe County Community Health Assessment Findings

Attachments: [Feb, 2024 - CHA Update to BOH v.2](#)

The purpose of this presentation is to provide information about Community Health Assessment findings as part of a three-part series of data overviews.

5.c. ACPH Communications Quarterly Report

Attachments: [Communication Update to BOH 20240221](#)

The purpose of this presentation is to introduce the Board of Health to communications efforts at ACPH and to the Public Health Communications Business Partner. In this presentation, the Board will receive a quick year-in-review summary of communications touch points from 2023, a snapshot of in-progress communications projects and a look ahead at major upcoming projects. The goal is to keep the Board apprised of communications efforts, due to the importance of direct touch points with the public and the unique opportunity communications affords to build the Arapahoe County Public Health brand, identity and trust within our community. Q&A about communications tactics, strategies and ideas is welcomed!

5.d. ACPH Director's Report - February 13th, 2024

Attachments: [BOH_Director's Report_20240221](#)

This is a report from the director of the Arapahoe County Public Health Department for the period of January 12th, 2024 - February 13th, 2024 presented to the Board of Health.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION AND COUNTY ATTORNEY LEGAL MEETING

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Arapahoe County

5334 South Prince Street
Littleton, CO 80120
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Board Summary Report

File #: 24-184

Agenda Date: 3/20/2024

Agenda #: 5.a.

To: Board of Health

Through: Jennifer Ludwig, Public Health Director, Arapahoe County Public Health

Prepared By:

Heather Baumgartner, Partnerships, Planning and Community Health Promotion Division Director, Public Health

Presenter: Alexa Escobar Paez, MPH, Senior Population Health Epidemiologist, Public Health

Subject:

Arapahoe County Community Health Assessment Findings

Purpose and Request:

The purpose of this presentation is to provide information about Community Health Assessment findings as part of a three-part series of data overviews.

Background and Discussion: Colorado statute requires that public health agencies conduct an assessment and planning process that results in the creation of a comprehensive community health assessment and a new community health improvement plan every five years. In response, 21 staff from across ACPH have contributed to the creation of an Arapahoe County Community Health Assessment. This month, report highlights will be presented on the topics of safety, education, economic security, and access to physical and behavioral health care.

Fiscal Impact: No immediate, direct fiscal impact. Findings from the Community Health Assessment will inform the selection of 5-year priority areas during Quarter 1 of 2024. Staff and Board of Health members can anticipate the need to identify resources to plan, coordinate and track initiatives to impact the resulting priorities.

Alternatives: N/A

Staff Recommendation: N/A

Motion(s): N/A



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

PUBLIC HEALTH

Community Health Assessment Overview Part III
March 2024



Agenda

- Community Health Summary Findings
- Questions and Input



A hand holding a magnifying glass over a blurred city night scene with colorful bokeh lights. The magnifying glass focuses on a brightly lit urban street with tall buildings and many neon signs, including one that says '100-yen'. The background is a soft-focus array of colorful lights in shades of blue, orange, and green.

Preliminary Findings by Topic Area

- Education and Health
- Economic Security
- Safety and Health
- Access to Physical and Behavioral Care

A photograph of a woman with long brown hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, standing next to a young woman in a black graduation cap and gown. They are both smiling and looking at each other. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a white wall and some decorative items.

Education and Health

"I am most proud of our schools and teachers."

Source: ACPH Community Engagement Process, 2023

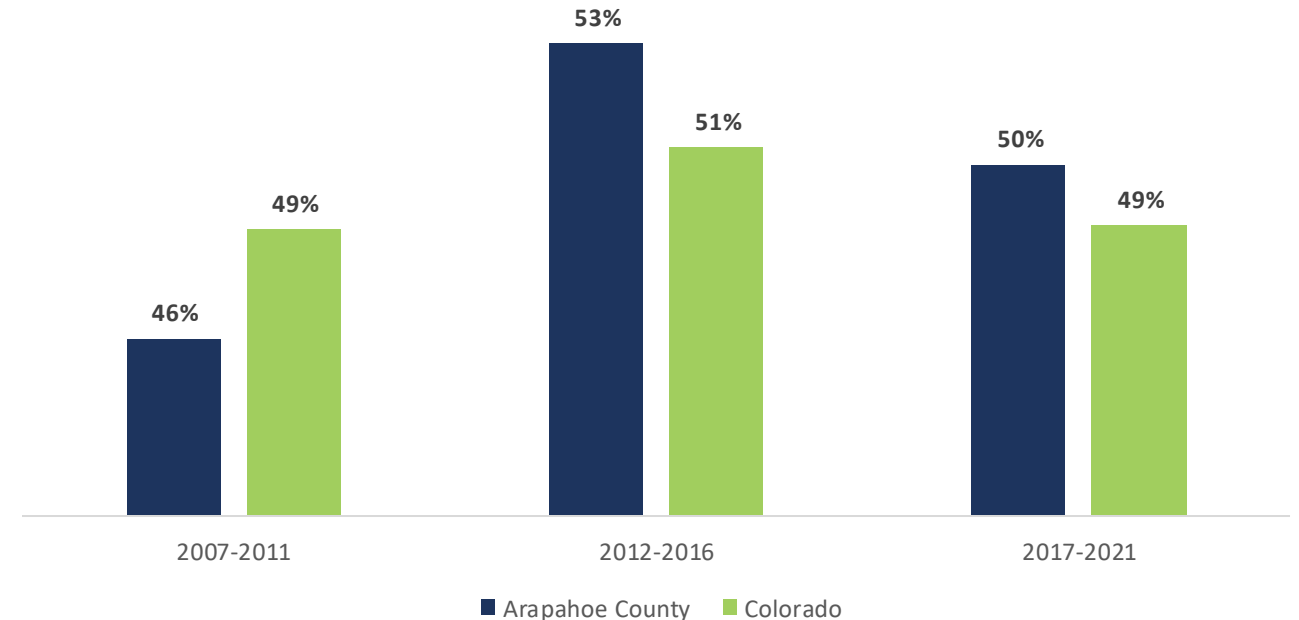
Early Childhood Education

- From 2017 to 2021, 50% of children between the ages of 3 and 4 were enrolled in preschool, in Arapahoe County.
- In 2022, the legislature created the Universal Preschool (UPK) Colorado Program. A program designed for all Colorado children who are one year from starting kindergarten.



Arapahoe County partners often mention early education and childcare as imperative to wellbeing

Five-Year Average of Children Ages 3 and 4 Enrolled in Preschool, 2007-2021



High School Education

- During COVID-19, four-year high school completion rates decreased overall in Colorado, but increased again in 2023.
- Dropout rates across school districts in 2023 ranged from less than 0.5% to 4.7%, with an average rate of 2.1%, aligning with the state's dropout rate of 2.1%.


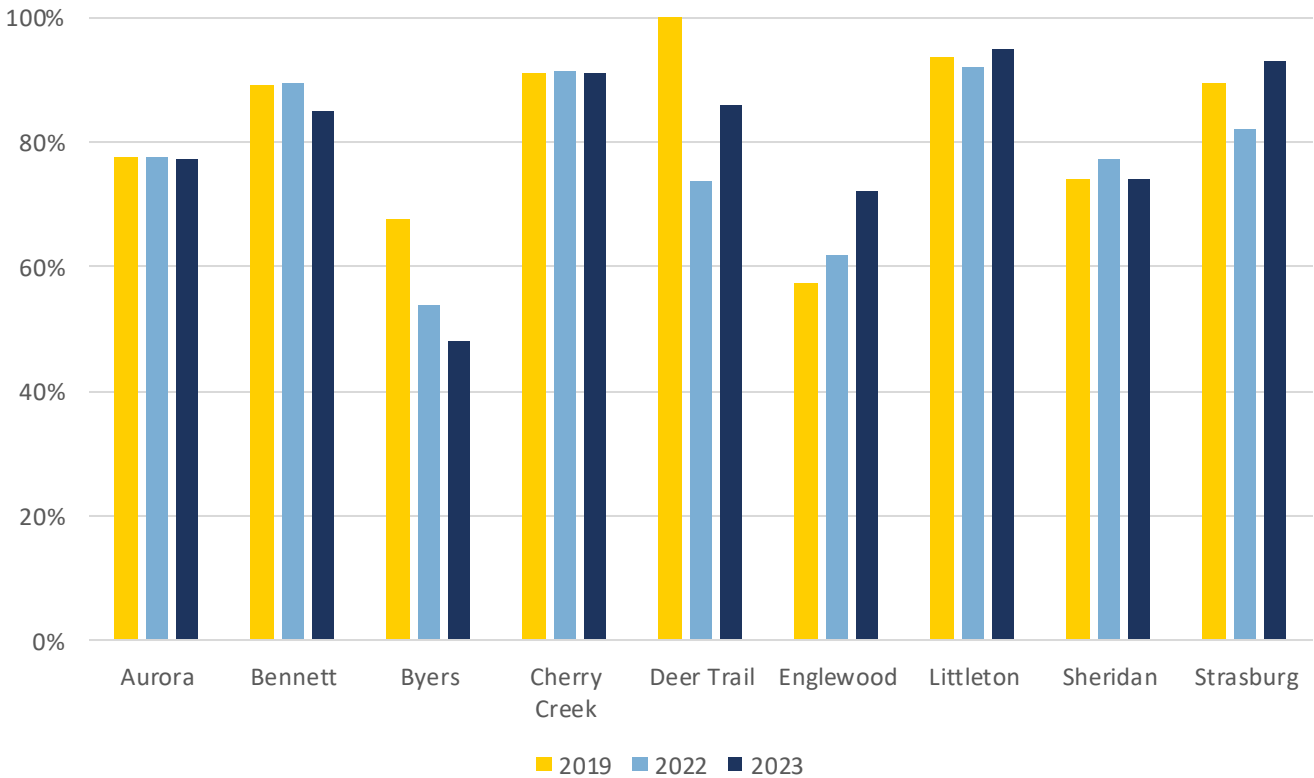
 **Dropout rates in Arapahoe County school districts increased from 1.4% in 2022 to 2.1% in 2023**

Figure 2: Four-year High School Completion Rates by School District, 2019, 2022, and 2023



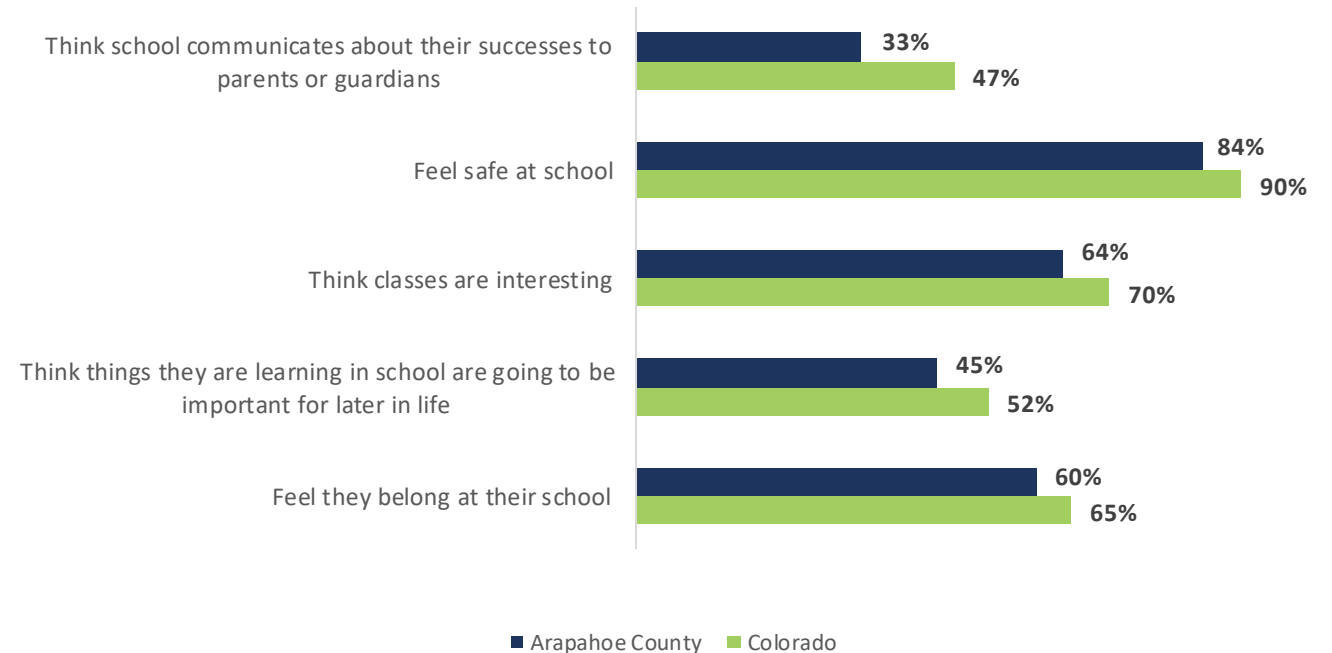
High School Education

- Almost seven out of 10 students (67%) in Arapahoe County high schools reported that they almost always tried to do their best in school.
- Students in Arapahoe County reported that they were less frequently than Colorado students:
 - to feel that they belong
 - understand how school topics relate to the future
 - think classes are interesting
 - think their parents are told about their successes
 - feel safe at school



In Arapahoe County, 40% of students report feeling like they don't belong in their school

Student Perceptions of School Experience, 2021



Education Across the Lifespan

- Arapahoe County data around older adults and learning is not abundantly available.
- Studies show that continuing to learn as we age helps keep our brains sharp, potentially delaying cognitive decline.
- Seniors across the county are seeking out ways to acquire new skills and many see lifelong learning as a way to feel more personally fulfilled.

During our community member survey, participants mentioned the desire to access adult learning opportunities –

“Me encantarian programas de manualidades, o programas de oficio (mecanica, soldadura, construccion, electrico) y en Espanol.”

“I’d love some crafting or technical programs (mechanics, welding, construction, electrical) and in Spanish”

“Classes that teach kids and adults how to balance a checkbook, sew, change a tire, growing our own food...”

“I’d like to see more education opportunities like courses at the library, etc.”

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a wrapped gift. The gift is wrapped in brown paper with a black floral pattern and a green ribbon bow. It sits on a silver tray. In the background, there is a glass of dark liquid and a white flower with a pink center. The overall lighting is warm and slightly blurred.

Economic Security and Health

We'd like "Help getting sustainable jobs that pay enough to cover rent, food, other expenses. Training programs to help with training to get into better jobs.."

Source: ACPH Community Engagement Process, 2017

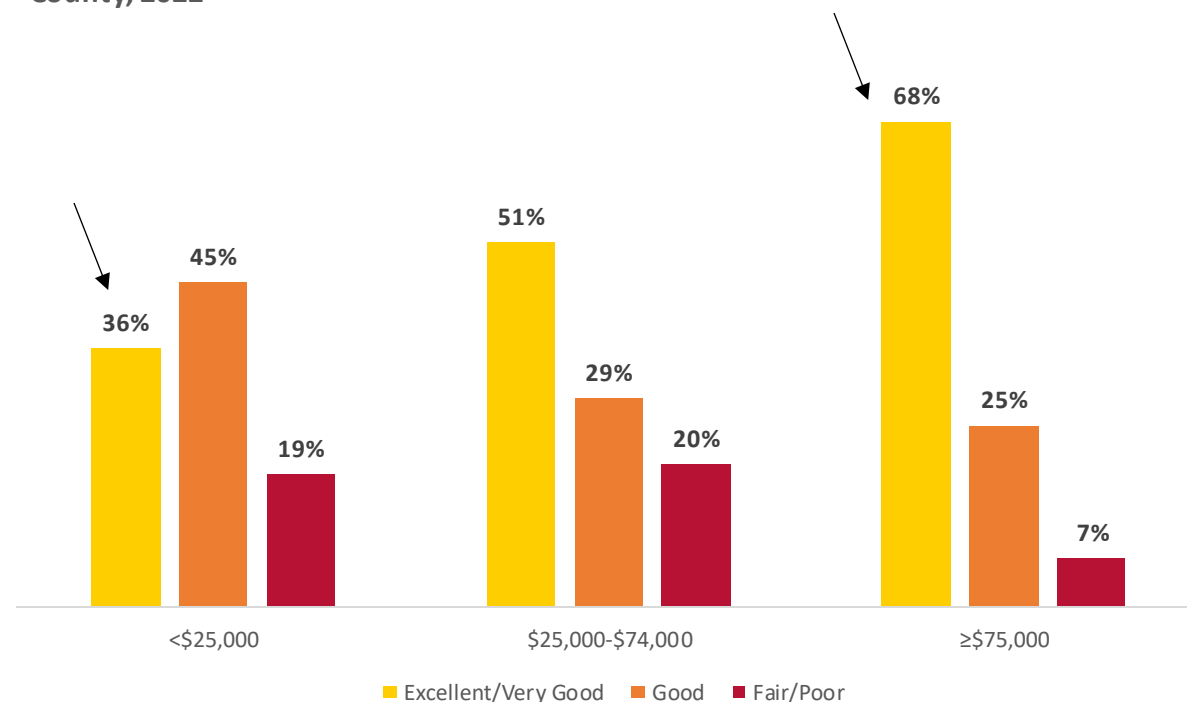
Income and Health

- Self-reported health has a direct relationship to income.
- Among those earning less than \$25,000 annually, nearly 4 in 10 (36.1%) describe their health as excellent or very good.
- Almost 7 in 10 (67.5%) of those with an annual income of \$75,000 or more report excellent or very good health.



In Arapahoe County, when income is limited self-reported health issues are more common

Self-Reported General Health Status by Household Income, Arapahoe County, 2022

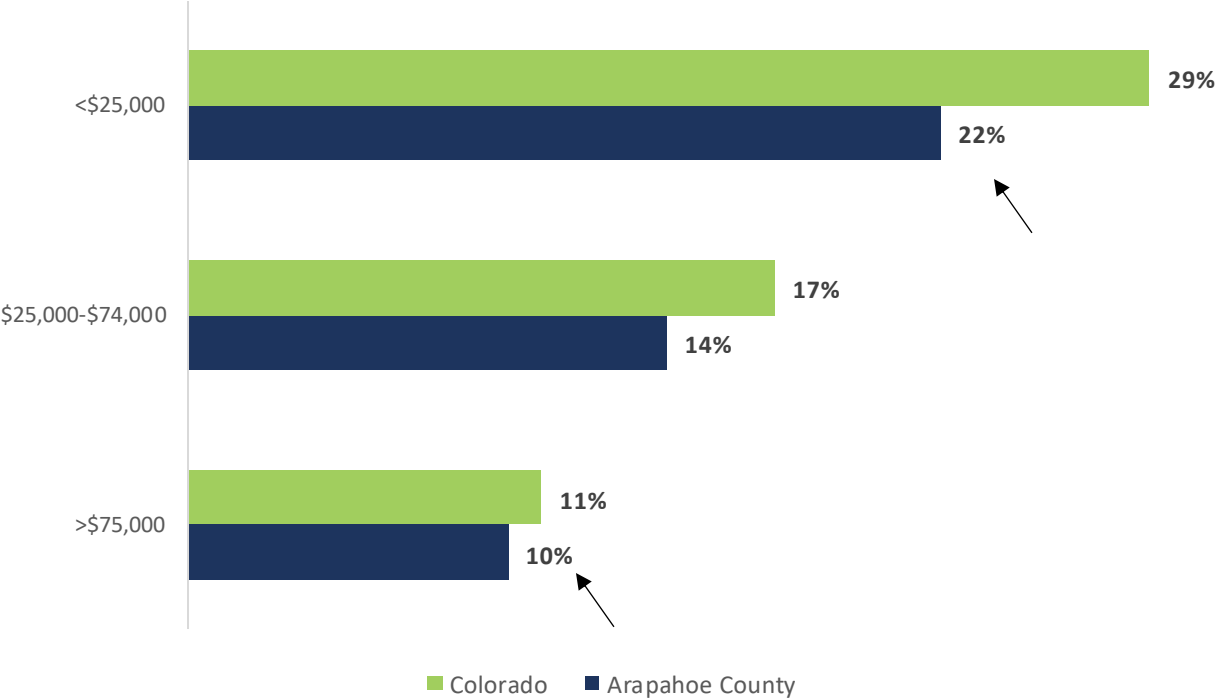


Income and Mental Health

- Like physical health, mental health is influenced by a combination of factors, including economic security.
- As income increases, the percentage of people reporting poor mental health decreases.

! One in five people in Arapahoe County making less than \$25,000 a year reported poor mental health

Percentage of People with 14+ Poor Mental Health Days (out of the past 30 days), by Income, 2022

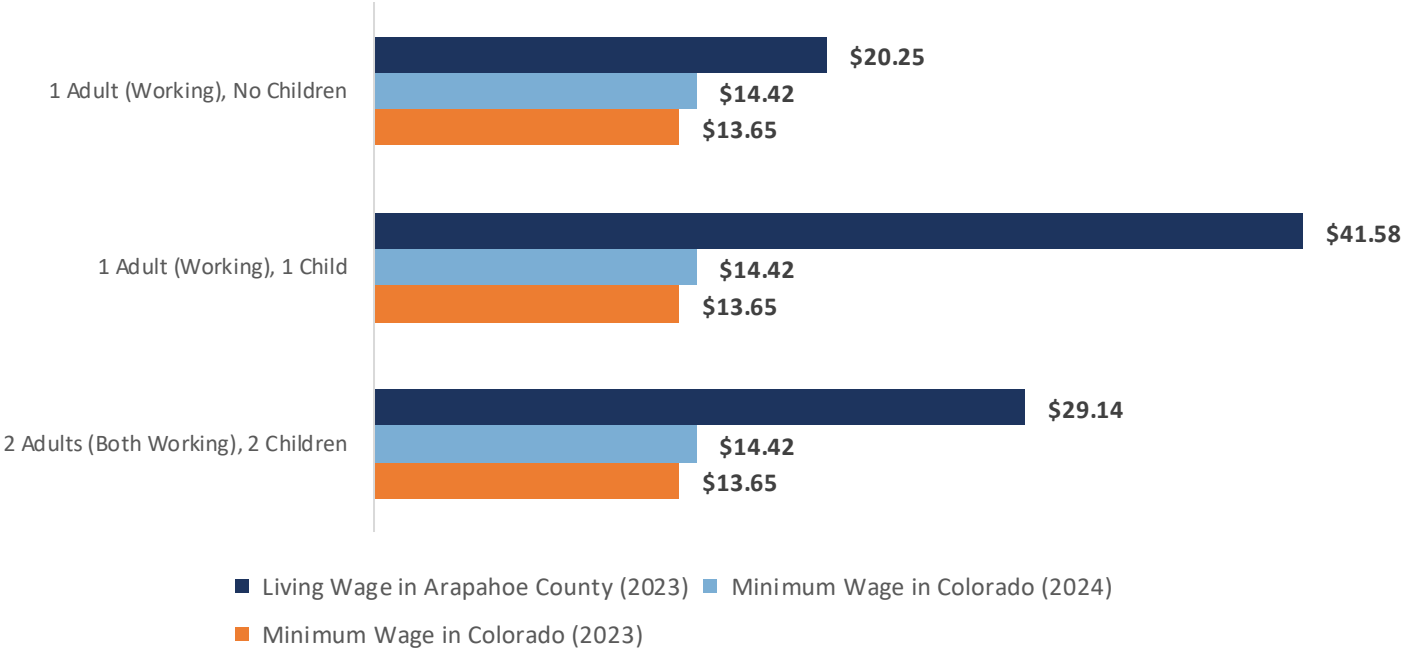


Income and Health

- A living wage, which considers local costs and taxes, can provide a more practical measure of purchasing power than poverty level.
- In 2024, the minimum wage in Colorado is \$14.42 per hour, an annual full-time salary of approximately \$29,993. However, compared to the living wage calculation, which is \$42,120 for a working adult without children.

Disparities are seen between the minimum wage and the living wage in Arapahoe County

Comparison of Hourly Minimum Wages vs. Hourly Living Wages by Family Type





Safety and Health

“Para vivir una vida sana y feliz, es necesario que nuestra comunidad sea segura, para educar a nuestros hijos por que ellos son el futuro para nuestra comunidad.”

“To live a happy and healthy life, we need our community to be safe, to educate our children because they are the future of our community. “

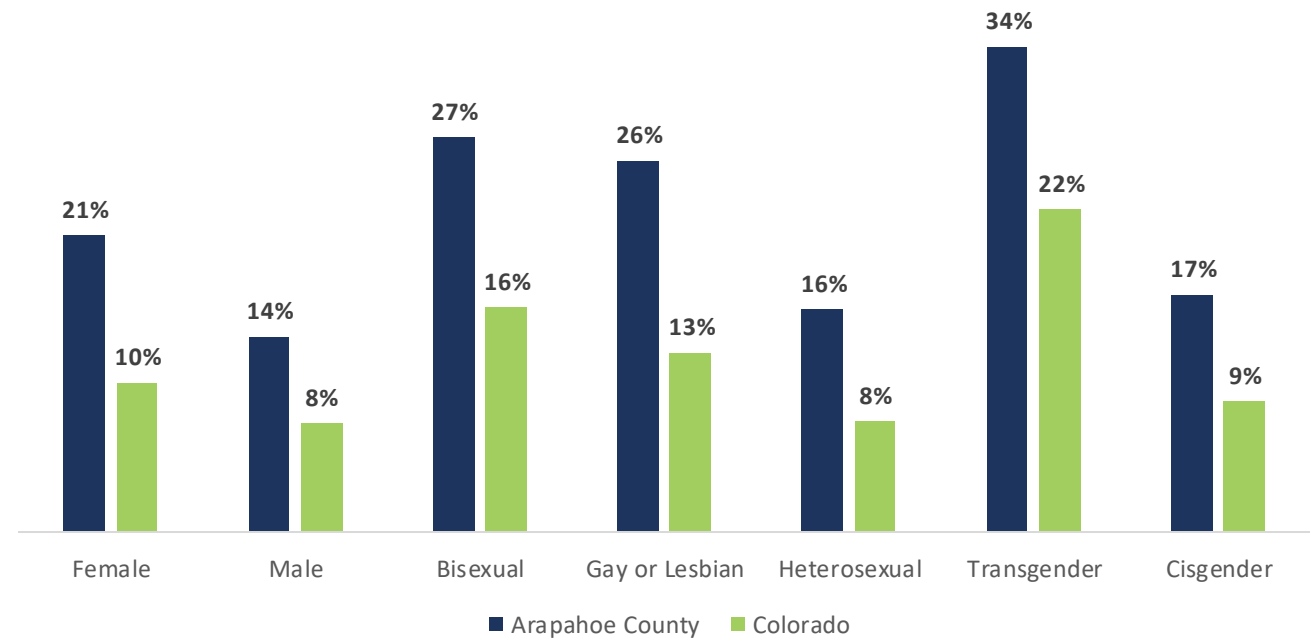
Source: ACPH Community Engagement Process, 2023

School Safety and Health

- Most high school students in Arapahoe County (84%) report feeling safe at school.
- Approximately one in six students reported having been absent one or more days in the past month due to feeling unsafe (17%).

! In Arapahoe County, LGBTQIA+ students more often reported missing school due to feelings of unsafety

High School Students Who Reported Missing School Due to Feelings of Unsafety by Sex and Sexual Orientation, 2021

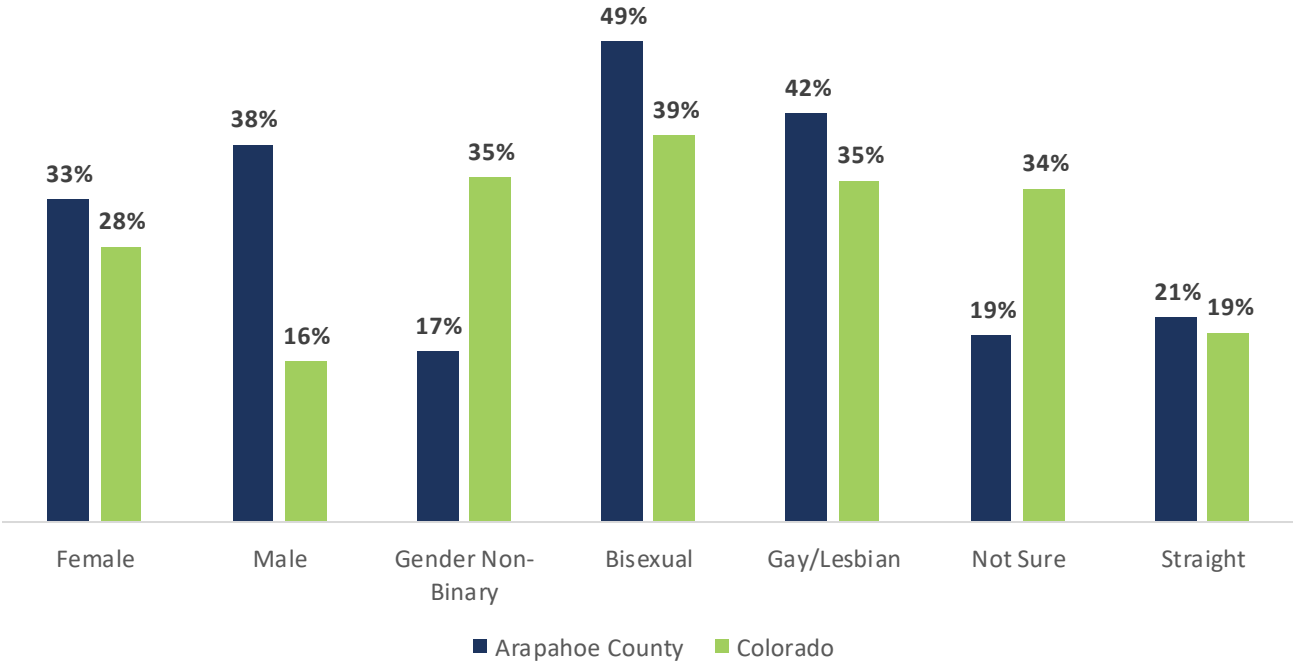


Intimate Relationships and Health

- In 2021, Colorado had an all-time high number of domestic violence fatalities (DVF) since 2017. The number for 2022 was higher—there were 94 DVF in 62 cases.
- Of the 94 people who died due to domestic violence, 86% of these deaths were caused by firearms.
- In 2021, approximately 8% of high school-aged students in Arapahoe County reported being physically hurt by someone they were dating.

The majority of deaths due to domestic violence in 2022 were caused by firearms

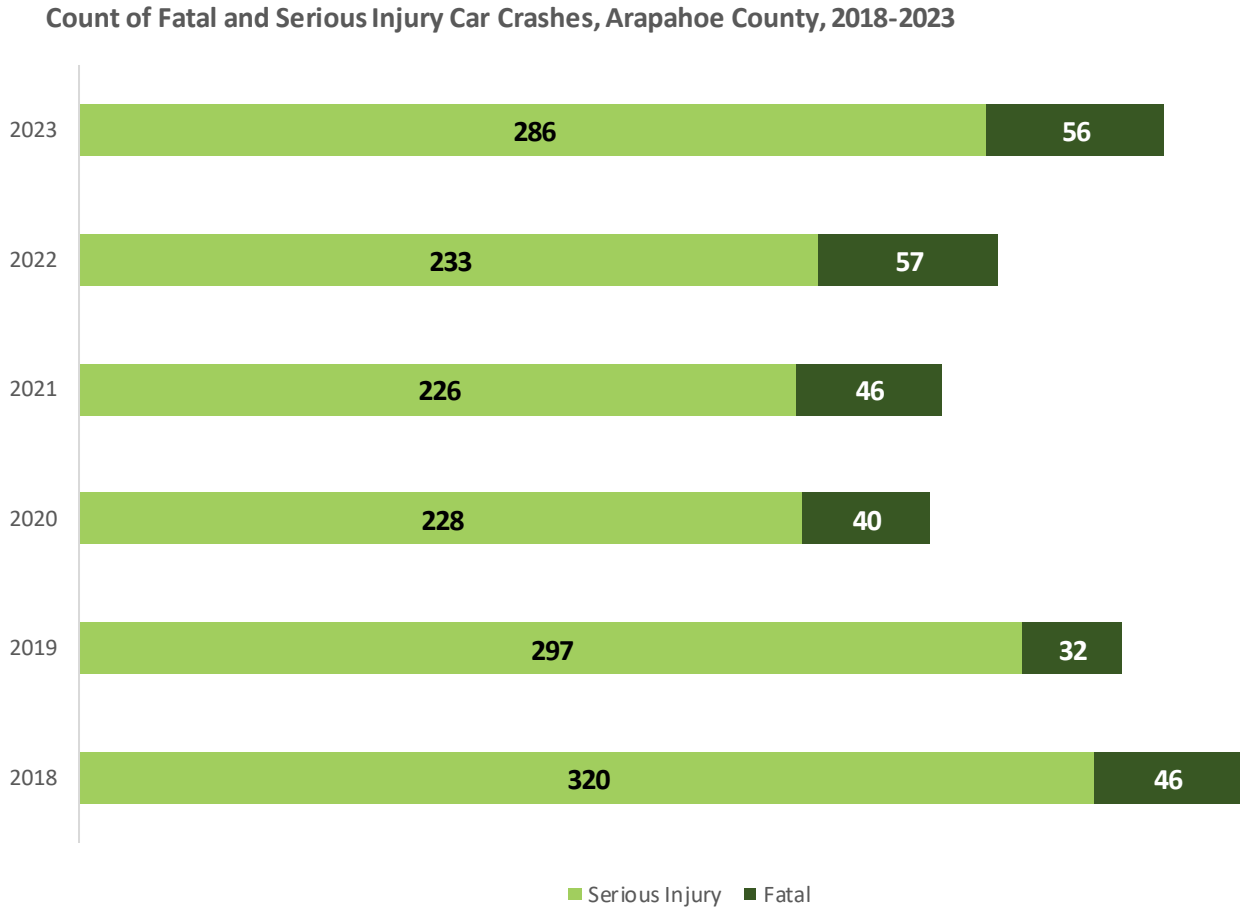
Percent of High School Students Who Had Been Controlled or Emotionally Hurt by Someone they Dated, by Sex and Sexual Orientation, 2021



Transportation Safety and Health

- In 2023, there were 9,809 car crashes in Arapahoe County, which included 496 crashes with DUI charges, 56 fatal incidents, and 286 causing serious bodily injury.
- Between 2018-2023, 369 non-motorist were involved in accidents resulting in serious injury or death in Arapahoe County.

! Motor vehicle crashes are among the leading causes of disability and death in Colorado

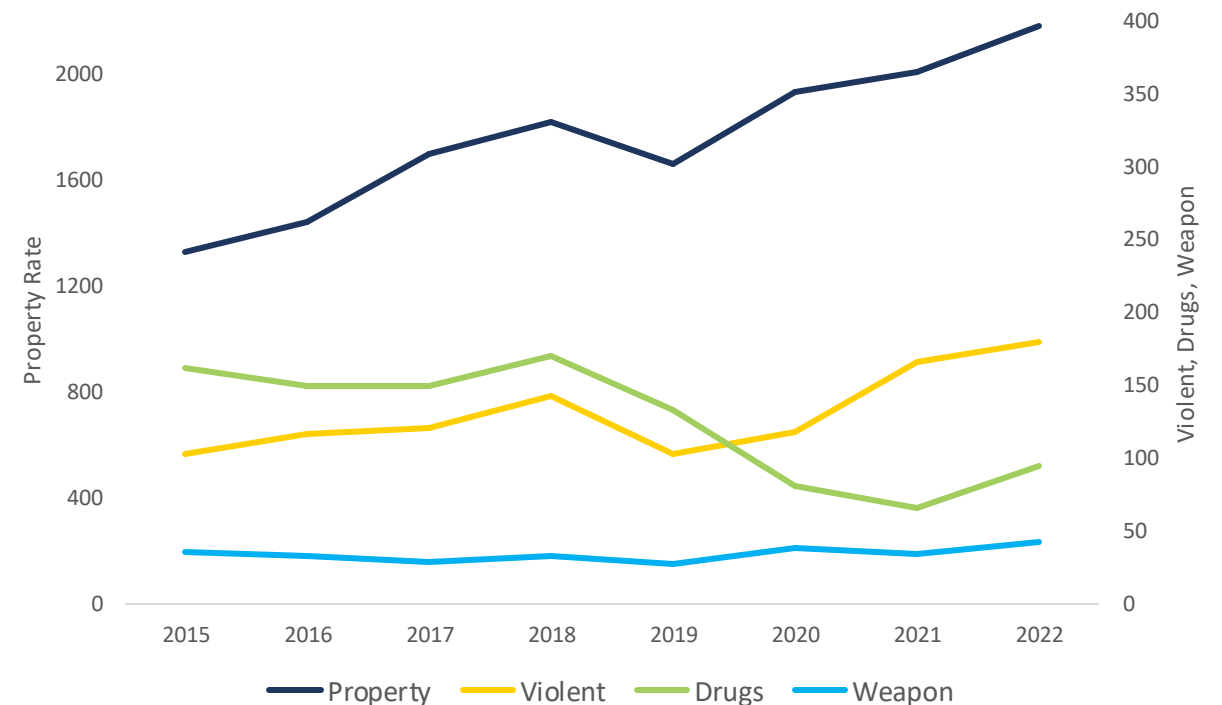


Crime and Health

- Steady increases in arrest rates for adult violent crime and property in Arapahoe County over recent years.
- The full picture of property crime can be challenging to capture due to the difficulty in stopping thefts as they occur.
- Similarly, some behaviors related to drug offenses, once deemed criminal, have either been decriminalized or their legal consequences have lessened.

! In Arapahoe County, crimes where weapons were involved have remained stable since 2015

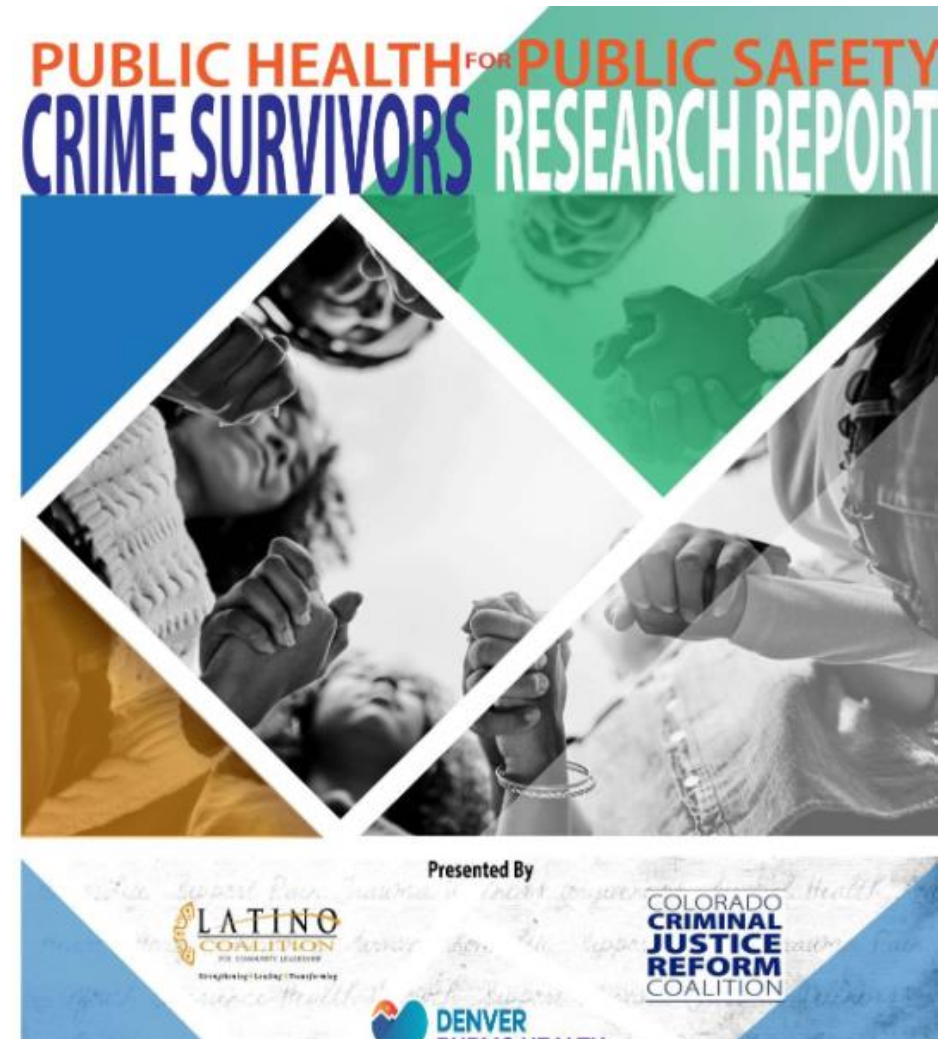
Rate of Arrest by Crime per 100,000 by type, Arapahoe County, 2015-2022



Crime and Health

- Crime is influenced by complex circumstances, often resulting in a disconnect from our communities, general mistrust, and potential injury.
- A 2015 study conducted in the Metro Denver Area aimed to better understand the needs and experiences of crime survivors found that communities of color bear a disproportionate burden of violent crime, yet a significant portion of victims opt not to report these crimes.

! In Arapahoe County, survivors of crime may not be aware of restorative services available to them



Firearms and Health

- In Colorado, firearms are the leading cause of death associated with suicide, community violence, domestic violence, and targeted and mass shootings.
- Between 2000 and 2022, 37 youths between the of 1-17 died in Arapahoe County due to firearm-related homicide.
- Prevention, education, treatment, and rehabilitation stand as pillars that enhance public safety.



In 2022, 37% of Colorado and 29% of Arapahoe County residents reported keeping a gun at home

In 2022, among all Arapahoe County Residents, there were

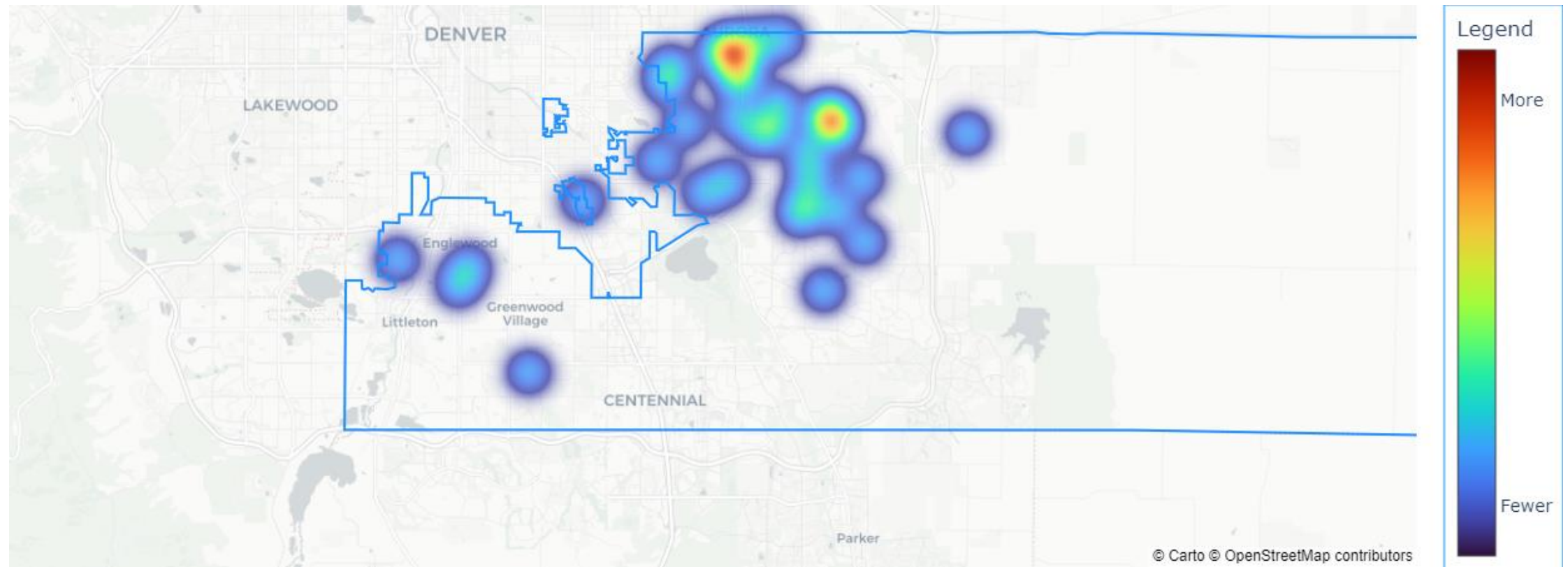
111

Deaths by
suicide
with a firearm

58

Firearm-related
homicides

Youth Firearm Homicide Deaths, Youth Ages 1-17 Years, Arapahoe County, 2000-2022 (n = 37)



A healthcare worker in blue scrubs is smiling and supporting an elderly man in a wheelchair. The man is also smiling and looking towards the healthcare worker. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a hospital or clinic.

Access to Physical and Behavioral Care

As a type 1 diabetic, it concerns me how many people are at a loss if they can't afford insulin, usually due to losing insurance. A \$35 copay is fine unless you don't have insurance. It would be nice to have a way to connect people with lifesaving health care without it being an ER visit.

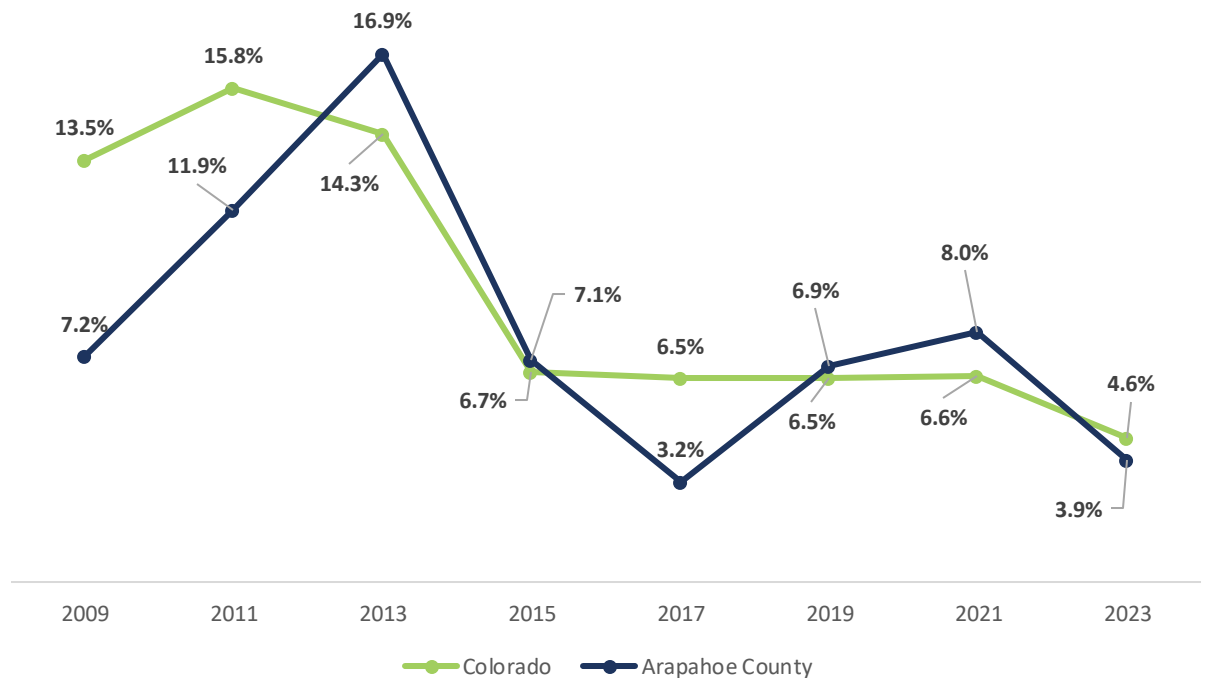
Source: ACPH Community Engagement Process, 2023

Coverage and Health

- The COVID-19 pandemic brought about significant hardship resulting in job losses and employer-paid insurance coverage.
- In 2021, 8% of the Arapahoe County adult population reported being uninsured. In 2023, this number decreased noticeably to 3.9%, with people ages 18-25 having the highest uninsured rate of (8%) and Hispanic/Latinx people at 8.9%.

Health insurance coverage in Colorado reached an all-time high in 2023

Colorado's Uninsured Rate, 2009-2023

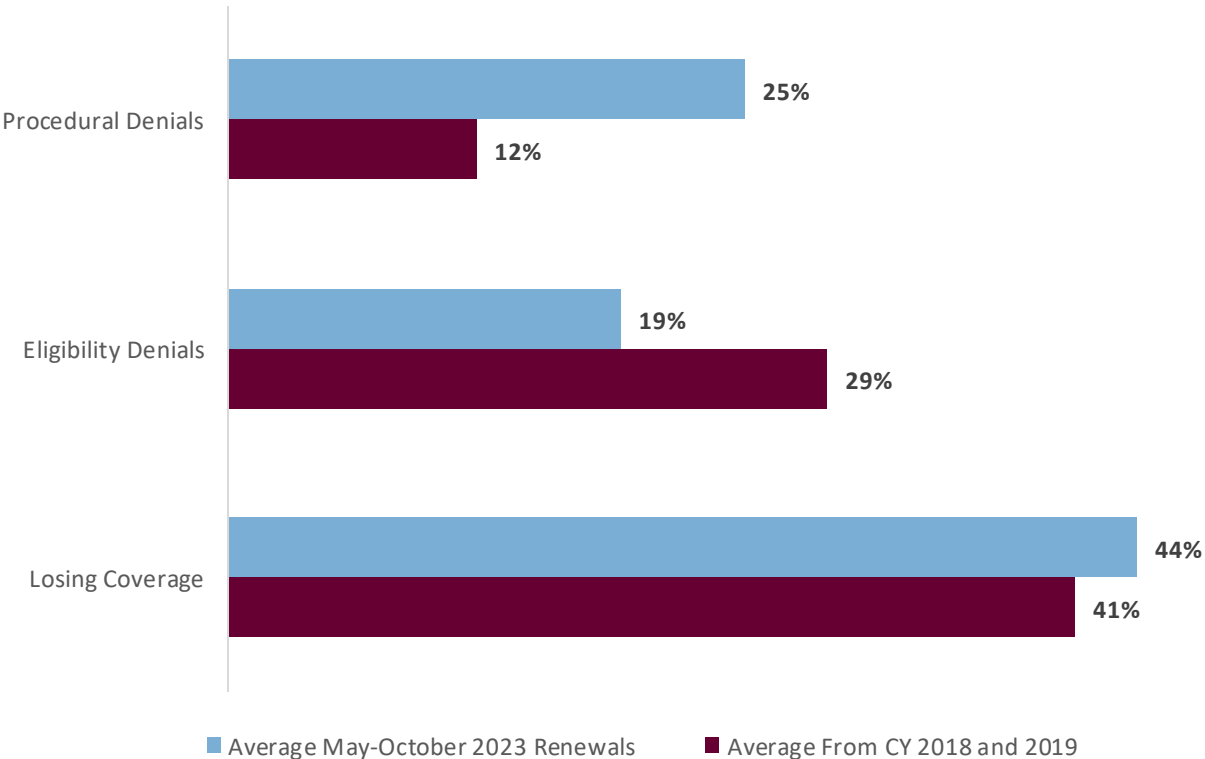


Coverage and Health

- The PHE Unwind disenrollment percentage of 44% is within 3% point of the 41% pre-pandemic rate.
- The bars on top show the average PHE Unwind procedural denial rate (25%), after the 90 day reconsideration period. This is about double historic norms.
- The middle bars illustrate current denials due to income and other criteria.

! Failure to complete the renewal process is the most common reason for procedure denials

Renewals, Calendar Year 2018 and 2019, and May-October 2023*, Colorado

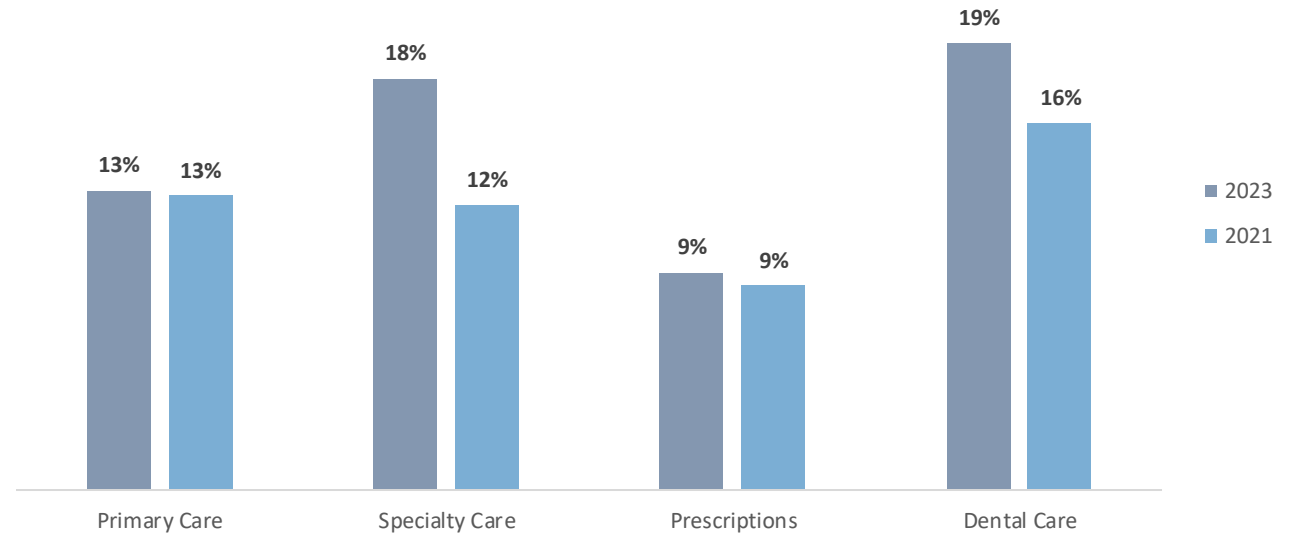


Cost and Health

- In 2023, 18% of Arapahoe residents reported not receiving specialty care due to cost concerns, an increase from 12% in 2021.
- Dental care is the type of care most often missed due to cost concerns.
- In 2022, 72% of Arapahoe County adults had dental insurance, and 67% had a dental visit in the past year.

! In 2023, nearly 1 in 3 people in Arapahoe County reported receiving a surprise medical bill

Percent of People Who Did Not Access Care Due to Cost By Type, Arapahoe County

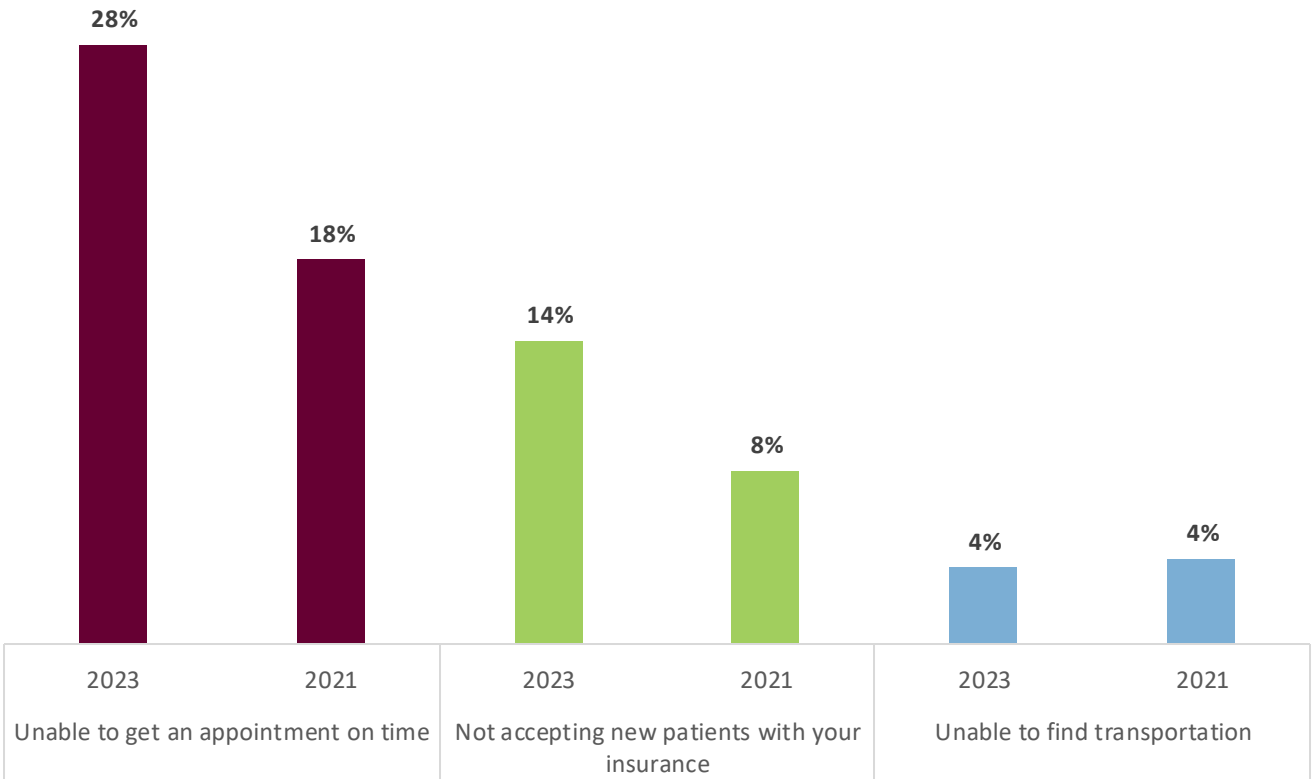


Access and Health

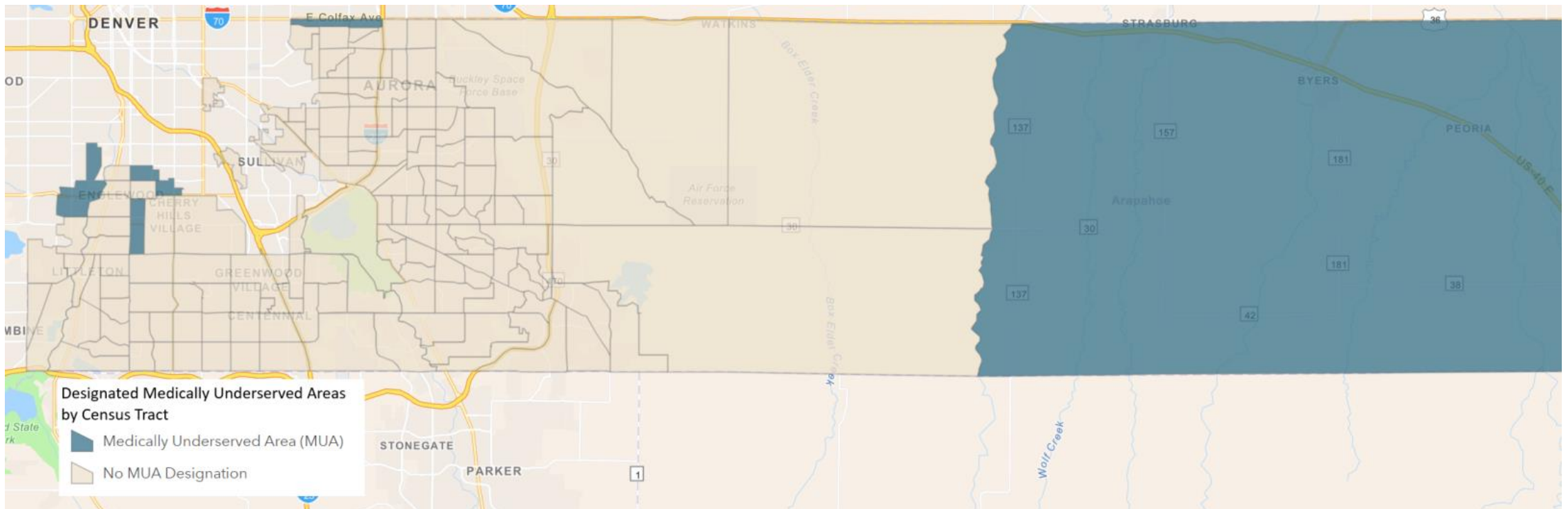
- Geographical proximity and provider workforce influences accessibility of health care services.
- In 2023, more people in Arapahoe County reported not being able to access an appointment with a doctor's office/clinic on time than in 2021.
- Barriers to mental health care are also reported. In 2023, 15% needed services but did not receive them, and 62% of people cited unavailability as the reason.

! Reported transportation barriers to care did not improve or worsen in 2023 compared to 2021

Reported barriers to Access by Year, Arapahoe County, 2021 and 2023



Designated Medically Underserved Area, by Census Tract, Arapahoe County

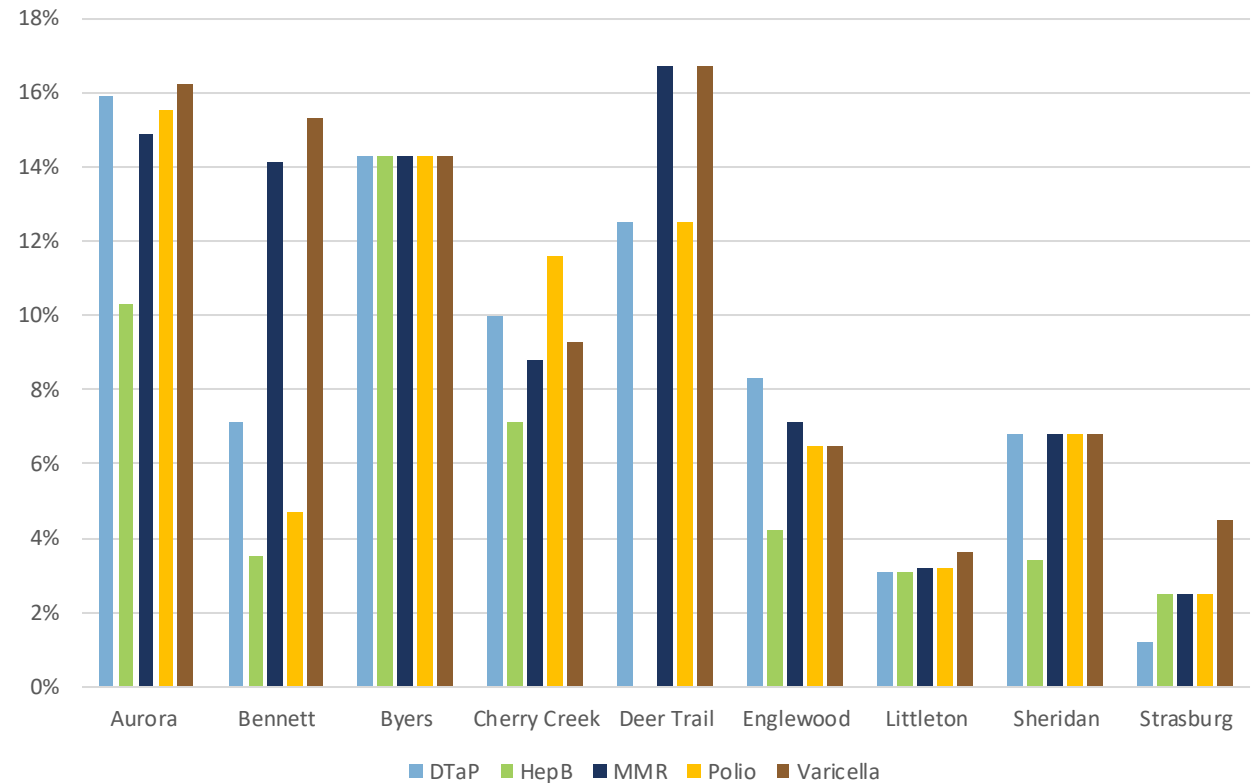


Immunizations and Health

- In 2022, 86.8% of kindergartners were vaccinated against measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR). This is the lowest vaccination rate since 2017.
- During the 2022–2023 school year, nearly half of Arapahoe County school districts reported over 90% of kindergartners protected with all DTaP, HepB, MMR, Polio, and Varicella vaccines, while other districts reported 90% or higher vaccination outcomes in some vaccines than others.

Decreasing vaccination rates may increase the risks of the reemergence of preventable diseases

Percentage of Kindergartners Without Complete Vaccination by Vaccine in Arapahoe County School Districts, School Year 2022-2023



Questions?

In your opinion, how might these insights inform our public health approaches?

Are there any specific actions or information you are interested in exploring further in response to these data presented?

Contacts: CHAPS Internal Planning Team

- **Brooke Wagenseller**, Public Health Planner
- **Alexa Escobar Paez**, Senior Population Health Epidemiologist
- **Grace Soulen**, Health Equity and Community Engagement Coordinator
- **Laura Don**, Regional Health Connector
- **Heather Baumgartner**, Director of Partnerships, Planning and Community Health Promotion
- **Tania Cerrato**, Population Health Data Science Manager
- **James Swank**, Data Scientist
- **Laura Wolton**, Temporary Health Planning Analyst
- **Rebecca Rapport**, Senior Community Health Promotion Specialist

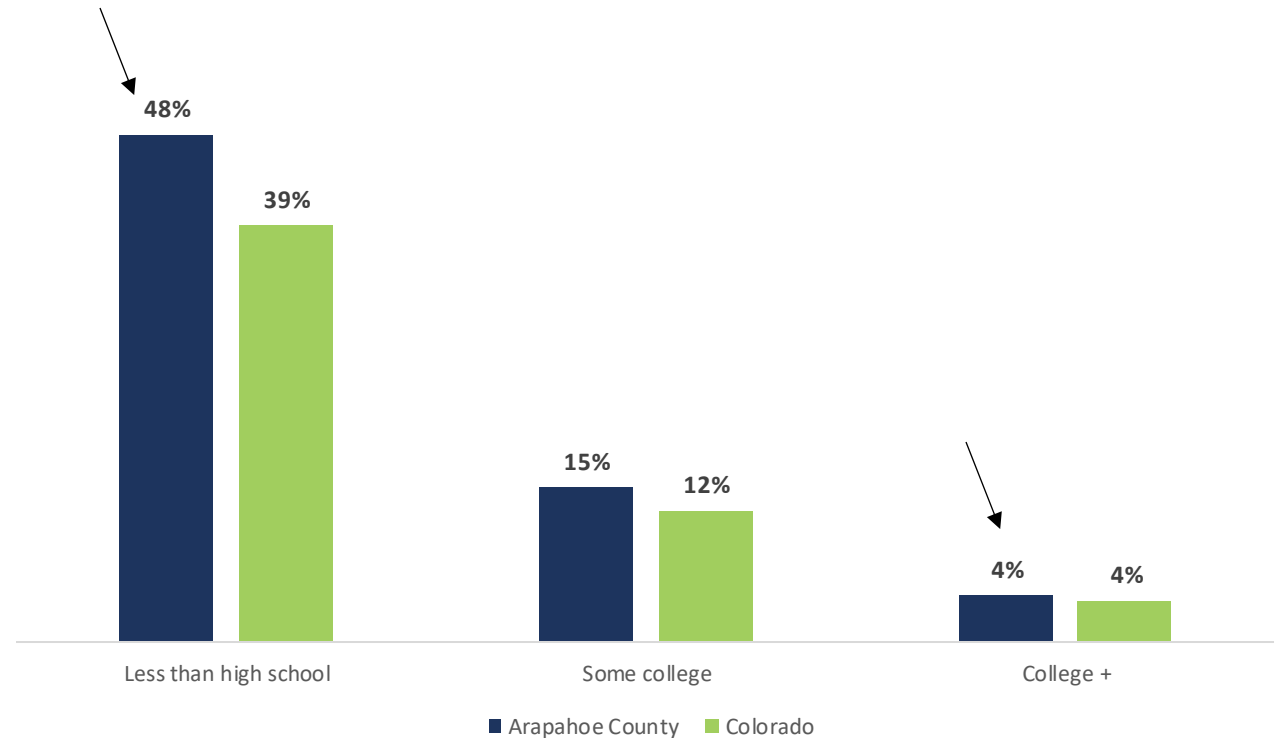
APPENDIX

Higher Education

- Individuals with more academic education and/or specialized skills training are also more likely to have healthier working conditions, higher wages, and better health insurance.
- In Arapahoe County, someone without a high school diploma is more likely to report being uninsured compared to a person with a college degree.

! In Arapahoe County, College graduates earn nearly twice as much as HS graduates over a lifetime

Adults without Health Insurance Coverage by Educational Attainment, 2018-2020

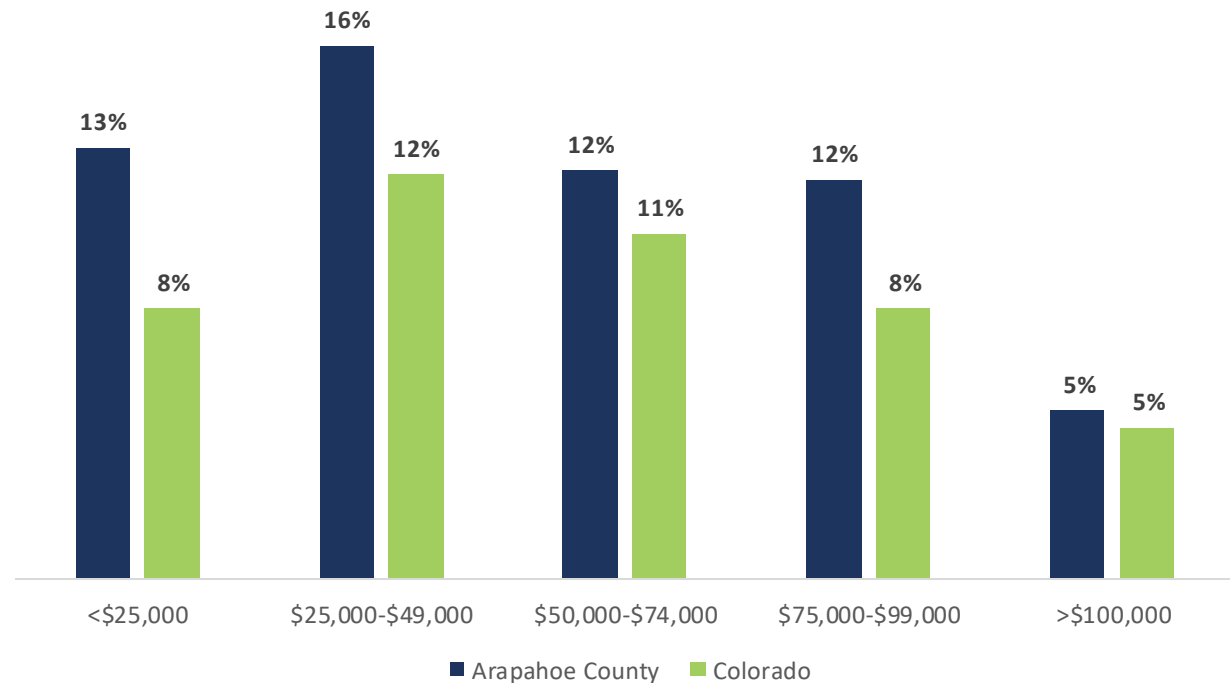


Income and Health

- Approximately 68% of insured people making under \$25,000 depend on public coverage.
- Recent enrollment reports from the Colorado Health Foundation (CHF) show significant changes in health care coverage. A 2.7% reduction in Health First Colorado's Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) programs in 2023 in the second quarter and a further 9.5% decrease in the third quarter.

! Availability and accessibility to public insurance programs is a vital safety net for our communities.

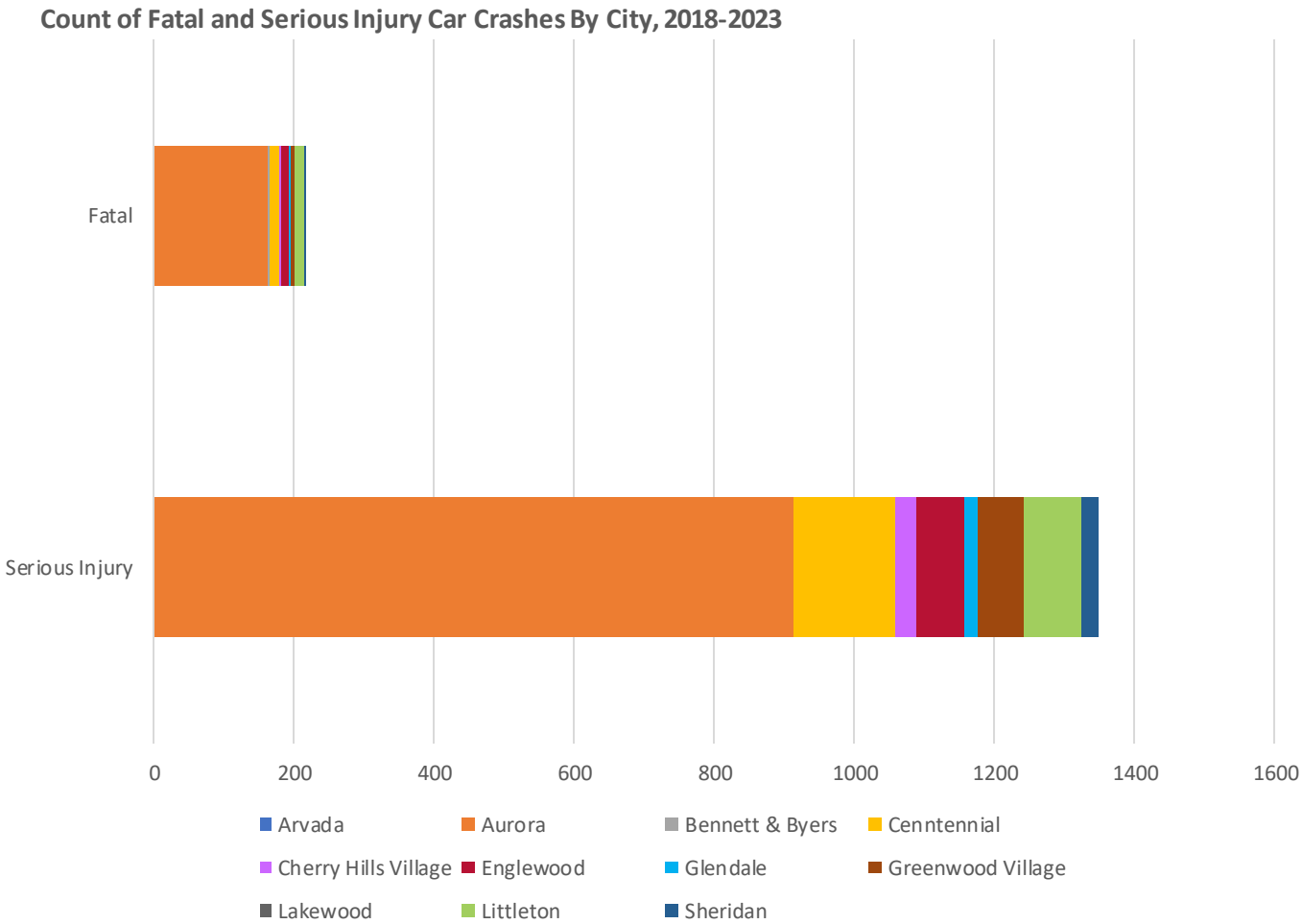
Percentage of Individuals Without Health Insurance by Income Level, Arapahoe County, 2022



Transportation Safety and Health

- Densely populated areas are more likely to experience motor vehicle accidents because of various factors, yet everyone has a stake in road safety.
- A 2022 statewide seat belt usage study, ranked Arapahoe County third highest in Colorado, boasting an estimated seat belt usage of 93.8%.

Seatbelt usage in Arapahoe County was reported at 93.8% in 2022

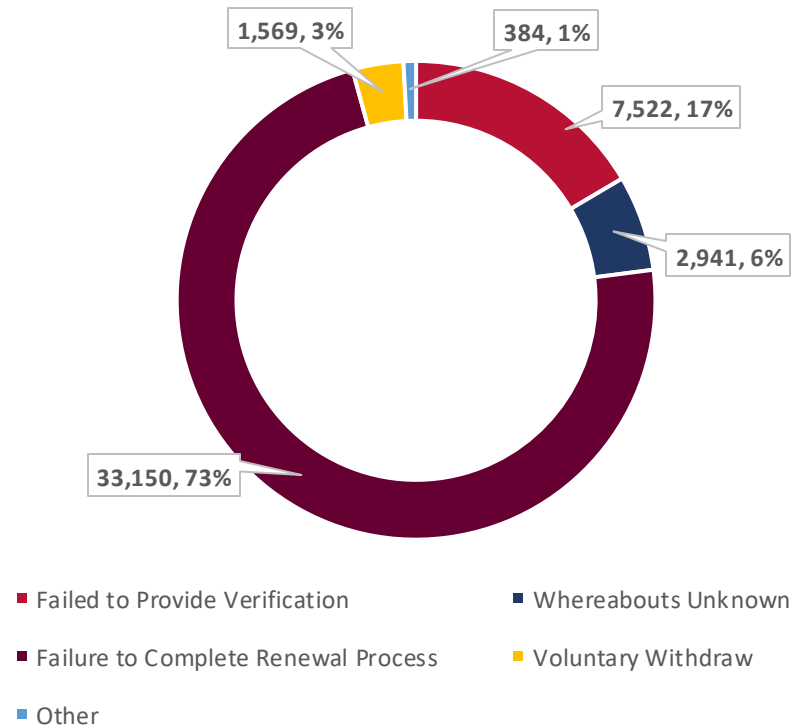


Coverage and Health

- Procedural denials are administrative denials for issues other than income and other eligibility requirements.
- In Colorado, data indicates that procedural denials are higher than historic, pre-pandemic levels.

! Income based and other qualified eligibility-based coverage denials are far below historic

People No Longer Eligible for Medicaid: Procedural Reasons, Colorado, January 2024



Oral Health

- A person's economic stability, neighborhood, built environment, education, social and community context, and health care access directly impact their oral health.
- In 2022, 5% lost six or more teeth due to decay or periodontal disease.



Three in 10 children in Colorado have tooth decay by kindergarten



1 in 4 Arapahoe County residents reported being without dental insurance in 2022.

Source: <https://coloradooralhealth.org/initiatives/surveillance/>



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Board Summary Report

File #: 24-185

Agenda Date: 3/20/2024

Agenda #: 5.b.

To: Board of Health

Through: Jennifer Ludwig, Public Health Director, Arapahoe County Public Health

Prepared By:

Melissa Adair, Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program Manager, Public Health

Presenter: Melissa Adair, Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program Manager, Public Health

Subject:

Communicable Disease Epidemiology (CDE) Program Overview

Purpose and Request:

The purpose of this presentation is to provide the BOH an overview of the Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program which is part of the Health Protection and Response Division within the Public Health Department for Arapahoe County. This presentation will discuss the organizational structure, program purpose statement, program functions, provide an example of the programmatic impacts of a non-routine case investigation, and provide time for questions and answers.

Background and Discussion: None

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Staff Recommendation: N/A

Motion(s): This presentation is informational only.



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

Communicable Disease Epidemiology (CDE) Program Overview

Melissa Adair

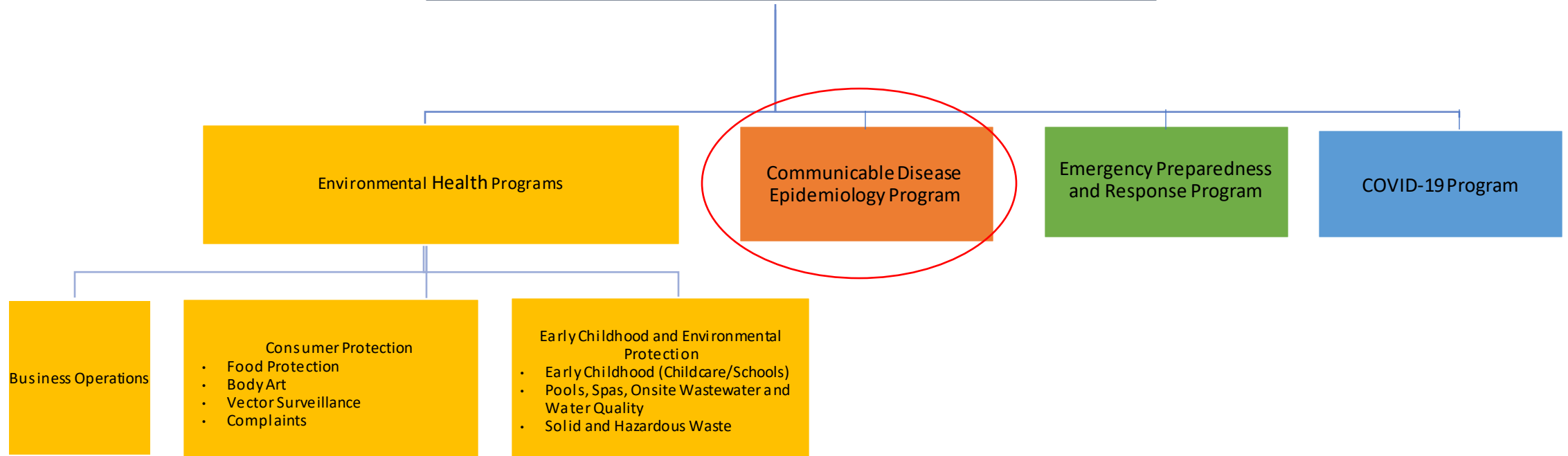
Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program Manager

Agenda

- Organizational Structure
- Purpose Statement
- Role of a Communicable Disease Program
- Alignment with ACPH Strategic Goals
- Program Functions
 - Case Investigation and Contact Tracing
 - Animal Related and Rabies Investigations
 - Specimen Collection
 - Outbreak Management
 - Data Collection and Analytics
 - Education, Training, and Collaboration
- Non-Routine Case Investigation Example
- Questions



Division of Health Protection and Response



Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Arapahoe County Public Health (ACPH) Communicable Disease Epidemiology (CDE) Program is to protect and improve the health of our community by preventing and controlling the spread of communicable diseases. We achieve this by responding quickly to reports of diseases and outbreaks, educating the public on preventive measures, monitoring data trends, and collaborating with partners to ensure a unified and effective health response. Our goal is to create a safer, healthier environment for all community members, focusing on prevention, awareness, and timely action.

Role of a Communicable Disease Program

- Required by Colorado state statute to report, investigate, and control communicable diseases
- Over 100 [reportable conditions in Colorado](#)
- Shared state and local responsibility and authority

CDE Alignment with ACPH Strategic Goals

- **C** Cultivate Comprehensive Health Equity Practice
 - Promptly identify and control exposures and outbreaks before disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations
 - Use our communicable disease data to identify health disparities and inform targeted interventions to promote health equity across different populations.
 - Provide education and outreach to specifically address the needs of underserved and vulnerable populations, ensuring equitable access to information and resources.
- **O** Optimize Interventions
 - Tailor responses to severity and nature of the disease, ensuring resources are allocated efficiently
 - Analyze outbreak data and implement evidence-based interventions to optimize our efforts to control and prevent future outbreaks efficiently
- **R** Reinforce and expand robust partnerships
 - Collaborate with the public, healthcare providers, organizations, laboratories, and other entities to strengthen partnerships that are essential for a comprehensive epidemiological response.
 - Collaborate with community organizations, schools, and other partners to disseminate information effectively and widely.
- **E** Enhance Capacity and workplace diversity, inclusion, and engagement
 - Engage a diverse team in the response efforts to ensure a variety of perspectives and skills are utilized, enhancing our capacity to address health issues effectively.
 - Develop education and outreach initiatives using a diverse team that understands various cultural and community norms, enhancing our program's reach and impact.

Program Functions

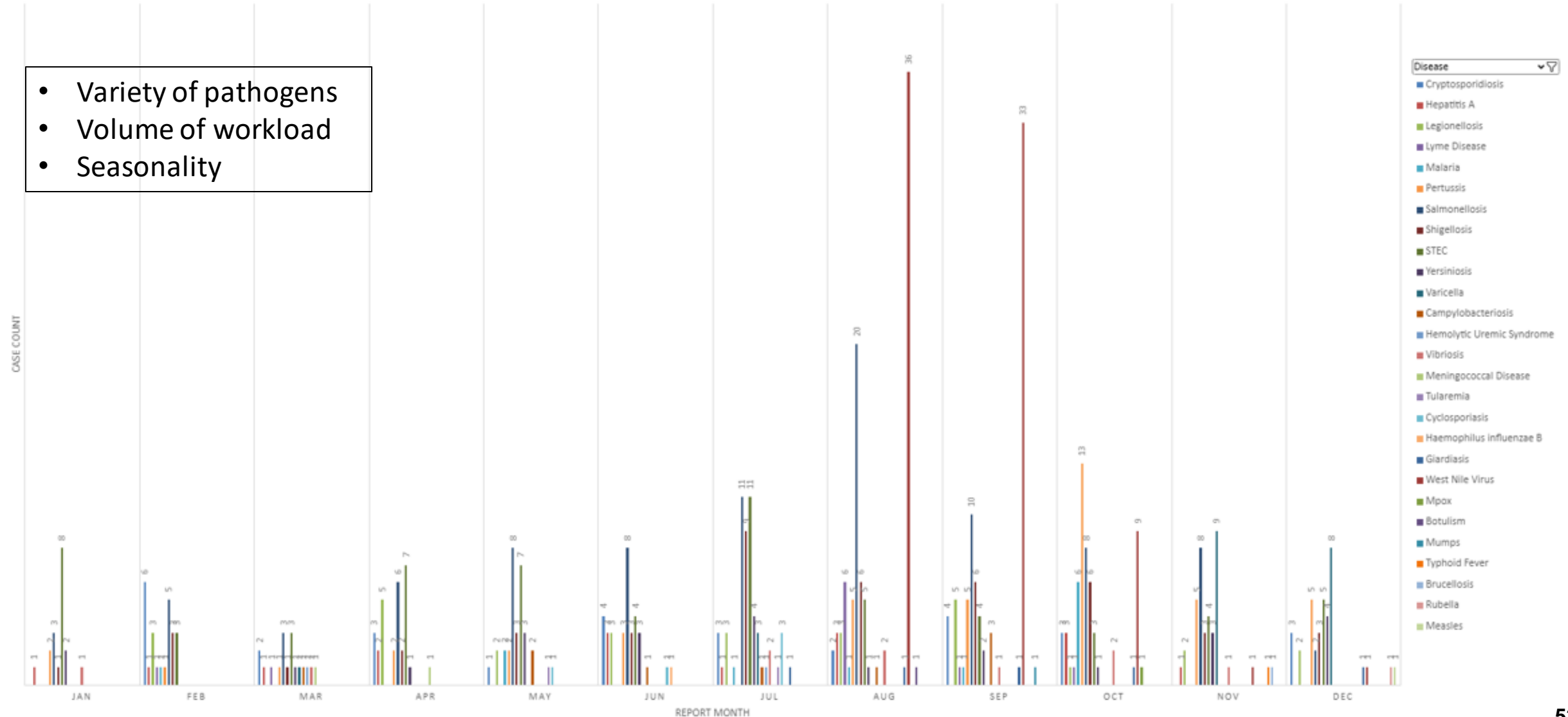


Case Investigation & Contact Tracing

- Variety of pathogens
- Volume of workload
- Seasonality

Count of Disease

2023 ARAPAHOE COUNTY INVESTIGATIONS BY REPORT MONTH



Report Date ▼

Animal Related & Rabies Investigations



- Human vs. rabies reservoir species
- Human vs. domestic pet
- Domestic pet vs. rabies reservoir species
- Other calls and inquiries about animal interactions
- Specimen collection
- Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) coordination
- 2023 Data
 - 619 animal related investigations
 - 90 rabies reservoir species
 - 33 people recommended PEP
 - 21 animals tested
 - 1 positive bat

Specimen Collection

- Stool
 - Exclusions
 - Identifying carrier status
 - Outbreaks
- Animals for rabies testing
 - All CDE staff are rabies vaccinated
 - Contracted veterinarians
 - In-house bat euthanasia
- Food (very rare)
 - Outbreaks

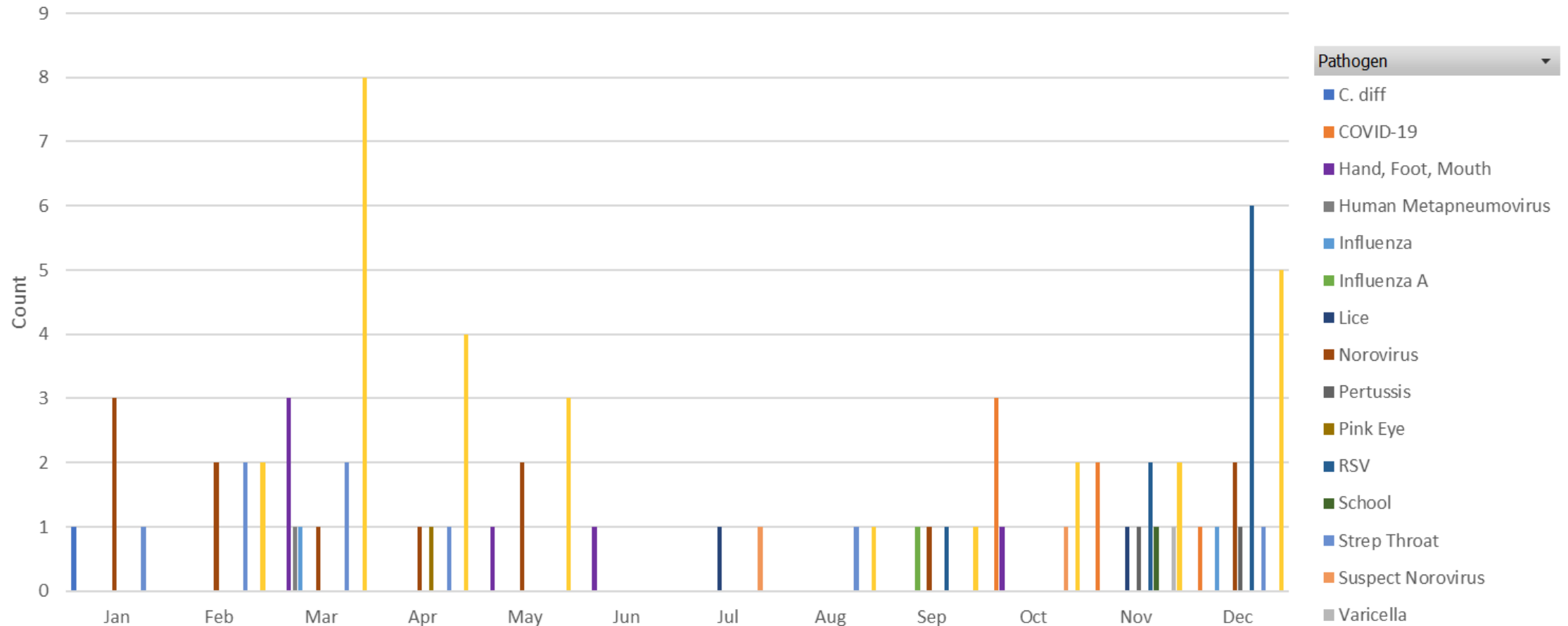




Outbreak Management

Count of Pathogen

2023 Arapahoe County Outbreaks by Report Month

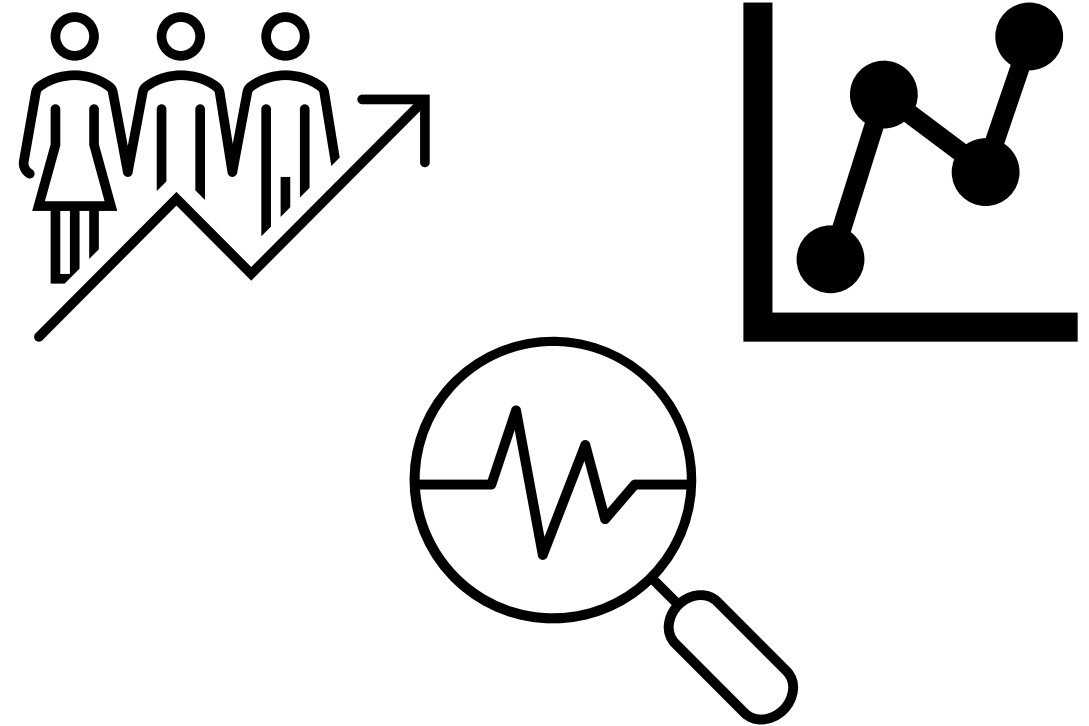


Months Report Date

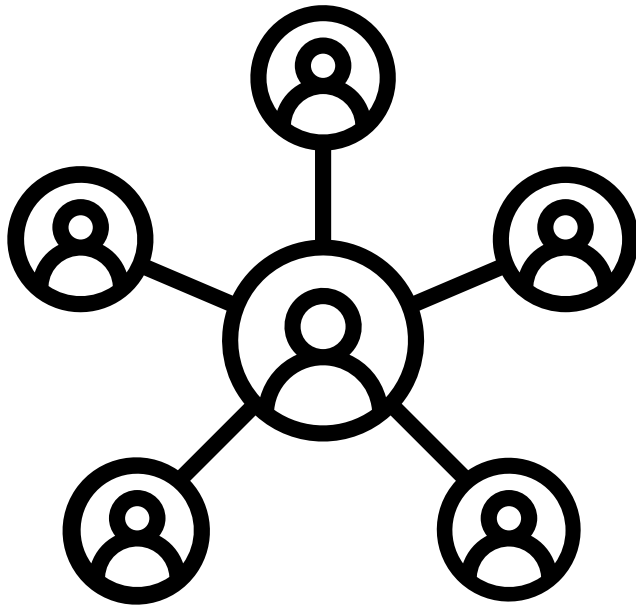
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Data Collection & Analytics

- Data dashboards (coming in 2024!)
- CEDRS/EpiTrax
- Electronic Lab Reporting
- Syndromic surveillance
- Case control and cohort studies
- Data requests
 - Internal and external



Education, Training, & Collaboration



- Education and Training
 - Partner presentations, workgroups, and webinars
- Collaboration
 - Internal – Environmental Health, Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR), Immunizations, Communications, Community Resources, Open Spaces
 - External – Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), LPHAs, hospitals, congregate settings, schools/childcares
- Community Engagement

Non-Routine Case Investigation Example - Measles

- EPR activates Incident Command Structure (ICS)
 - Staff across multiple ACPH Divisions activated (EPR, CDE, Communications, Nursing, Chief Medical Officer, Executive Leadership, Health Equity)
- Shift all routine CDE work to CDPHE
- Increased hours
 - 199 person hours for December case for just 5 CDE program staff
- Quarantine orders/Public Health Orders
- Immunization
 - Clinics for PEP
- Increased external partner collaboration (CDPHE, LPHAs, Hospitals, Laboratory)
- Media Inquires

Questions?





Arapahoe County

5334 South Prince Street
Littleton, CO 80120
303-795-4630
Relay Colorado 711

Board Summary Report

File #: 24-186

Agenda Date: 3/20/2024

Agenda #: 5.c.

To: Board of Health

Through: Jennifer Ludwig, Public Health Director, Arapahoe County Public Health

Prepared By:

Jennifer Ludwig, Public Health Director, Arapahoe County Public Health

Presenter: Jennifer Ludwig, Public Health Director, Arapahoe County Public Health

Subject:

ACPH Director's Report - March 20th, 2024

Purpose and Request:

This is a report from the director of the Arapahoe County Public Health Department for the period of February 14th, 2024 - March 14th, 2024 presented to the Board of Health.

Background and Discussion: This is an informational report for the Board of Health from the Public Health Director.

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Alternatives: N/A

Staff Recommendation: N/A

Motion(s): N/A - Informational Item Only

Equity and Engagement

- 1) Upcoming Events, Opportunities, and Trainings
 - a. OPHP (Office of Public Health Practice, Planning, and Local Partnerships) has partnered with RIHEL (Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership) to offer **Leadership in Action** to all Colorado Board of Health Members. Please check your email for dates and how to register.
 - b. Join ACPH Staff from Sexual Health, COVID-19, Healthy Beverages and Tobacco Cessation for the **Aurora Wellness Community Health Fair** hosted by the [Aurora Wellness Community](#) on Saturday, March 30, 2024 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (open house) at the [Aurora Science & Tech Middle School](#).
 - c. Join ACPH Staff from COVID-19 and Harm Reduction programs in supporting the **Aurora Economic Opportunity Coalition Community Health Event** on Tuesday April 16, 2024 11am-2pm at Dayton Street Labor Center, 1521 Dayton Street, Aurora, CO 80010.
 - d. The Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners will proclaim April 1-7 as **National Public Health Week** to celebrate public health professionals on March 26th at 9:30am at the Arapahoe County Administration Building, East Hearing Room, 5334 S. Prince Street, Littleton.
 - e. ACPH Staff and Leadership will present the **Community Health Assessment** overview and finding to the Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners on April 23, 2024 at 2:00PM at the Arapahoe County Administration Building, West Hearing Room, 5334 S. Prince Street, Littleton.

Program Updates:

Partnerships, Planning and Community Health Promotion

- 1) Partnership with Aurora NAACP to fill overdose prevention education gap

In partnership with the Aurora NAACP, the PPCHP Division submitted a grant application to the Opioid Response Strategic Impact Grant administered by the Colorado Attorney General's Office. If funded, this grant would be used by the NAACP and ACPH to develop and disseminate an overdose prevention resource and communications toolkit designed specifically by, with, and for African Americans, filling an important national gap in overdose prevention education.

- 2) Increasing access to recovery-friendly employment

PPCHP partnered with Bridge House Ready to Work program in the development of two competitive state-level grant applications. If awarded, these funds will be used to expand capacity and increase countywide connections in support of Ready to Work's case management to individuals experiencing homelessness and chronic unemployment, including training and linkages to recovery-friendly workplaces.

- 3) Tobacco prevention and cessation with and for Spanish-speaking communities

Following a competitive selection process, PPCHP has selected Sheridan Rising Together for Equity to receive grant funding administered by ACPH through the State Tobacco Education and Prevention Program. Sheridan Rising seeks to improve health equity for systematically underserved residents by intentionally centering the community experience. Through this grant, the organization will train youth and adults to deliver prevention and cessation education within Spanish-speaking communities.

Nutrition Division

1) Staff Attend 2024 National WIC Association Policy Conference

- a. Jill Bonczynski, Director of Nutrition, and Kathleen Rebollo, Special Projects Coordinator, attended the 2024 National WIC Association Policy Conference. Through this conference attendees learned about important policy, program and legislative issues and updates for the WIC Program and their clients. At the end of the conference, local and state Colorado WIC staff partnered together at virtual hill visits with our Congressional Members. Jill and Kathleen, along with CDPHE WIC state staff were able to visit with Representative Crow's



staff (pictured) and Senator Bennett's staff on the WIC Program and local impacts of the program. On Friday, March 8, the government came to a funding agreement for federal fiscal year 2024 (FFY24). The spending package includes an additional \$1 billion for the WIC program, which removes the risk of waitlists and ensures the current Cash Value Benefit (CVB) for fruits and vegetables is maintained at the higher (\$26, \$47, \$52) levels.

Community Health Nursing Division

1) Immunizations

- a. During the month of February, the program held 24 clinics and administered 1,449 total vaccines. To date, this is the most vaccines we have given in a month.
- b. At the February Shots for Tots clinic at the MLK Library, we saw 31 clients and turned away 21 clients. We gave a total of 165 vaccines. Due to the influx of migrants who came to the clinic, the majority of the children needed 7+ shots to be up-to-date with school requirements.
- c. In addition to the standing monthly Shots for Tots clinic, we held off-site clinics at the following locations:
 - i. Vaughn Elementary, 2/7
 - ii. Innovative Housing, 2/23
 - iii. Abilene Migrant Shelter, 2/21 and 2/23
 - iv. Tollgate Elementary, 2/14, 2/21, and 2/28 (note: heavy migrant population)
- d. We also provided outreach to the following community groups:
 - i. Charles Hay World School, School Wellness night, 150 attendees

- ii. Colorado Finest High School, Multilingual Family Night, 50 attendees
 - iii. Arapahoe Early Childhood Council Conference, 250 attendees
- e. We submitted a grant application to Health Care Policy and Finance (HCPF) with the hopes of purchasing a mobile vaccination van.
- 2) Sexual Health
 - a. Beginning syphilis community engagement focus groups in partnership with It Takes a Village.
 - b. We are working with Communications on a community-responsive digital media campaign to promote testing and treatment services for syphilis among LGBTQ+ populations in Arapahoe County, with primary strategies including dating app and social media advertising utilizing sex-positive, tongue-in-cheek messaging designed to resonate with the target audience.
- 3) Harm Reduction
 - a. Thank you to the Board of Health members who were able to attend the Prevention Point launch on February 27, 2024. Prevention Point will be strategically located at community-based organizations within Arapahoe County every Thursday starting the first week of March. Services will expand as need arises.
 - b. The Immunization Program and Harm Reduction Program paired up to provide Meningitis outbreak outreach on 2/14 and 2/21.

Health Protection and Response

- 1) Environmental Health Programs
 - a. Water Quality Program staff gave a presentation at the annual education conference for Colorado Professionals of Onsite Wastewater (CPOW) on February 8, 2024. Attendees at the conference included septic installers, inspectors, cleaners, onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS) designers, engineers, and regulators from across the state. The presentation explored the design considerations for septic systems when an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) is added to a home. As the amended land development code to allow ADUs in unincorporated Arapahoe County was passed last fall, this presentation discussed the rising popularity of ADUs and its impact on septic systems in Arapahoe County. We also partnered with the Water Quality Program Managers from El Paso and Boulder counties to discuss the unique challenges and requirements in their respective counties. Arapahoe County installers and engineers were appreciative of the relevant discussion as more homeowners are exploring the option of adding an ADU to their home.
 - b. Inspired by lessons learned in the Arapahoe County “Digital Transformation Academy”, Consumer Protection staff have reimagined the mobile food unit licensing renewal process. Mobile unit operators now submit a revised and more customer focused “renewal packet” which is reviewed prior to inspecting a mobile unit itself. Once an operator has been notified their packet is complete, they are then invited to schedule an onsite inspection at either the Willow or Altura office locations. The revised process has improved the customer experience and created a more thorough and accountable inspection process for everyone.
 - c. On March 16, 2024, CDPHE will formally adopt the 2022 FDA Model Food Code, which provides the regulatory foundation for all retail food inspections. By extension, Arapahoe County will similarly adopt the updated version of the code. While operators will notice little change, the updated code ensures that emerging food safety concerns are addressed and accounted for as part of operations. Also, with support from the funds from the FDA Retail Flexible Funding Model Grant Program, Arapahoe County staff will continue to seek

innovative ways to achieve compliance all while remaining true to our education oriented and collaborative approach.

- d. For the 2024 licensing season, 59 civil penalties totaling \$29,500 have been issued for non-payment for a required retail food license. As of March 8, 2024, 28 of the 59 facilities have not yet paid their license and civil penalty. For comparison, 51 civil penalties (\$25,500) for nonpayment of license were issued in 2023. All Body Art operations have paid their 2024 license fees.
- e. The Onsite Wastewater (Septic) team has been proactive in contacting realtor groups and providing presentations for the Transfer of Title program. A Transfer of Title inspection must be conducted before the sale of a home that is connected to a septic system. In partnering with local realtors, our team is hoping to continue to expand the reach of this program this upcoming year and help assure a more efficient and customer centered process for all parties involved in the Transfer of Title.

2) COVID-19 Program

- a. The COVID-19 Program is fully funded by the ELC 2.1 grant, with the grant period originally scheduled to end on April 30, 2024. A no-cost extension was offered and accepted, with a new final end date of July 31, 2024. The extension allows three additional months to provide education in the community, distribution of COVID-19 test kits, and the thoughtful integration of activities to be sustained into the permanent ACPH program structures.

3) Emergency Preparedness and Response

- a. ACPH has finalized the Public Health Emergency Operations Base Plan (PHEOP) as required by State Statute. The PHEOP formalizes the command structure and processes used to lead the response to public health emergencies, including the use of the National Incident Management System framework, the integration of health equity into all response operations, and resource acquisition during a response. The plan also lays out the foundation of how ACPH responds to any incident with public health consequences impacting the county and in support of other response partners. This document was developed in coordination with partners across ACPH divisions and across county departments to include the Office of Emergency Management, the Communications Team, and the County Attorney's Office.

Communicable Disease Report

1) Measles

- a. Measles cases are on the rise across the United States, including several outbreaks across the country. As of March 7, 2024, 45 measles cases were reported by 17 states. No cases have been reported in Colorado in 2024. The Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program, Immunization Program, and Communications have collaborated to develop social media and partner messaging to notify Arapahoe County residents of the increase in cases and to encourage vaccination ahead of spring break travel due to cases being reported in popular travel destinations such as Florida, California, and Arizona. We also shared this messaging with our school and childcare partners to help disseminate the information to families. Arapahoe County Public Health continues to monitor the increase in cases and outbreaks nationally so we are positioned to respond should we have a case or exposure within our jurisdiction.

2) Respiratory Season Update

- a. CDC anticipates that total hospitalizations for influenza, RSV, and COVID-19 will decline but continues to remain elevated at the time of this report. Nationwide, current levels of emergency department visits for viral respiratory illnesses are stable or decreasing across most areas of the country. However, further increases in one or more viral respiratory diseases are still possible and influenza has recently been increasing in some parts of the county.

3) Influenza

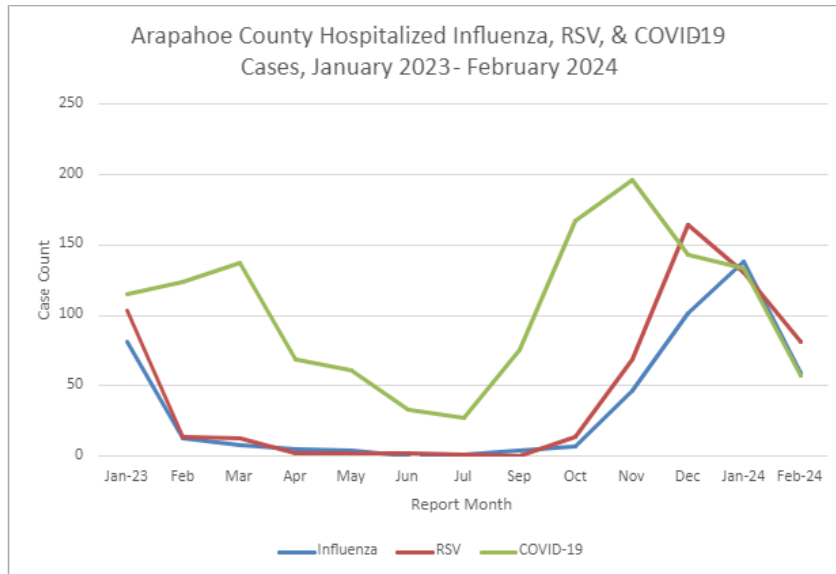
- a. Surveillance for the 2023-2024 influenza season officially began on October 1, 2023, and will continue through May 18, 2024. Statewide influenza hospitalizations have been declining since the last week of December. Arapahoe County influenza hospitalizations peaked in January followed by a decline in February.
- b. The Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) [interim estimates of the seasonal influenza vaccine effectiveness](#) were released on February 29, 2024. Analysis of data from four vaccine effectiveness (VE) networks estimated interim pediatric influenza VE was 59%–67% in outpatient settings and 52%–61% against influenza-associated hospitalization. Interim adult influenza VE was 33%–49% in outpatient settings and 41%–44% against influenza-associated hospitalization. These data indicate that the 2023-24 seasonal influenza vaccine is effective at reducing the risk of influenza-associated outpatient visits and hospitalizations.

4) RSV

- a. Surveillance for the 2023-2024 RSV season officially began on October 1, 2023. Rates of statewide RSV hospitalizations appear to be decreasing since the end of January. RSV hospitalizations in Arapahoe County peaked in December and have declined through February.

5) COVID-19

- a. On March 1, the CDC released [updated COVID-19 guidance](#) to align more closely with other respiratory viruses. This guidance removes the recommendation for a 5-day isolation with COVID-19 infection and encourages people to stay home when they are sick with any respiratory symptoms until they have experienced overall symptom improvement for 24 hours and have been fever-free without the use of fever reducing medication for 24 hours. This guidance is for community prevention activities and does not apply to healthcare settings, congregate living facilities, long-term care facilities, and schools and childcares at this time. The CDC and CDPHE are in the process of updating guidance recommendations for these settings. We are awaiting these federal and state updates prior to making changes in local guidance to ensure we align with both federal and state recommendations and best practices.
- b. COVID-19 hospitalizations in Arapahoe County peaked in November and have continued to decline through February.



C.

Social Media and Communications

Prevention Point Launch

[Sentinel](#)

[Colorado Community Media](#)

[Colorado Sun](#)

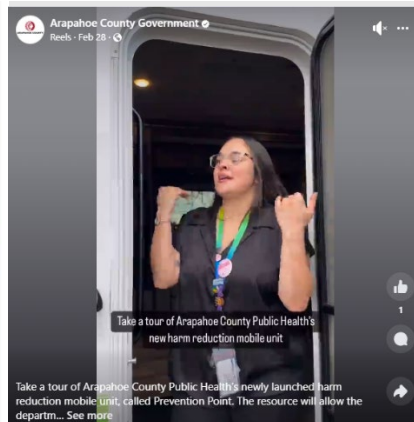
[KDVR 31/KWGN 2](#)

[KUSA 9](#)

[KCNC 4](#)

[KMGH 7](#)

[BNN](#)





Office of Health Equity partners with Arapahoe County Public Health
[What's the 411? February 2024 \(constantcontact.com\)](https://www.constantcontact.com)

Other Social Media Posts:



Legislative Update

Bill	Status	Positions Taken	Overview
SB24-22 Regulate flavored tobacco	Introduced <u>UPDATE:</u> <u>Postponed indefinitely</u>	CALPHO: Support BOCC: Support CCAT: Support	Allows a board of county commissioners to adopt an ordinance or resolution to: Regulate the distribution of cigarettes, tobacco products, or nicotine products; and Prohibit the distribution or sale of cigarettes, tobacco products, or nicotine products, including flavored cigarettes, flavored tobacco products, or flavored nicotine products.
HB 24-1028 Overdose Prevention Centers	Introduced, 1/10 <u>Second reading: 3/15/24</u>		Allows a municipality to authorize the operation of an overdose prevention center within the municipality's boundaries for the purpose of saving the lives of persons at risk of preventable overdoses.
SB24-043 Raw Milk Sales	Introduced, 1/12 <u>No movement</u>	CALPHO: Oppose BOCC: Amend	Authorizes a raw milk producer (producer) that registers with the department of public health and environment (department) to engage in direct-to-consumer sales of raw milk in the state if the producer complies with certain labeling, storage, handling, and transportation requirements.
HB24-1081 Regulation of the Sale of Sodium Nitrite	Introduced, 1/10 Engrossed 2/5 Reengrossed 2/6 <u>Hearing: 3/19</u>		The bill limits the sale or transfer of a product containing sodium nitrite in a concentration greater than 10% of the mass or volume of the product to commercial businesses that are verified to require a covered product.
SB 165: Air Quality Improvements	Hearing, 3/20	BOCC – monitor CALPHO – support	SB 165 would require the Air Quality Control Commission in CDPHE to adopt certain emission standards and rules for controlling emissions that result in pollutants
SB 166: Air Quality Enforcement	Hearing 3/20	BOCC – No position CALPHO – Support	SB 166 would focus on enforcement, including for repeat offenders. CDPHE would be required to assess civil penalties and require a root-cause analysis from repeat offenders, vs issuing a warning letter or other informal actions.
HB24-1359 Public Notification of Hazardous Chemical Releases	Hearing: 3/28	BOCC – No position, staff and lobby team working with bill sponsor CALPHO – oppose	Would create additional notification requirements for oil and gas operators in the event of a spill or release of a hazardous chemical. Within 24 hours of report submission, it would need to be shared with people located near the well site and through emergency notification systems.