

# Taney County Health Department

# 2025 Annual Report



**Caring.  
Serving.  
Protecting.**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Taney County Health Department



## Board of Trustees



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## Leadership Team

- Lisa Marshall MS, RD, LD, Director
- Erica Craig, RN-BSN, Clinical Manager
- Erica Logsdon, Environmental Health Manager
- Tammy Drake, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Manager
- Kayla Klein, DNP, RN, CPH, Community Outreach Manager
- Tiffany Stevens, Health Operations Manager
- Rick White, Operations Coordinator

### Mission:

Our mission is to create a healthy and safe community for people to live, work, and play, today and in the future. Together we save lives.

### Vision:

To be a recognized health leader serving Taney County residents and visitors in their pursuit of a healthy lifestyle and environment.

Values:

Caring. Serving. Protecting.

*Letter from the Director,*

*As 2025 comes to an end, I look back on the last year with an overwhelming sense of pride. I am proud of all our team has accomplished in just one year. We are always a productive team, but this year we have achieved more than any of us previously thought possible. Our team has continued to work diligently up to the very end of 2025 to complete major projects that will benefit Taney County residents for years to come.*

*Our most exciting news is the recent purchase of a new building in Forsyth. Scheduled to begin serving the Forsyth Community in 2026, our team looks forward to providing the same high-quality care, just in a new location. Operations at the Branson Office will remain unchanged and more information will be shared as it becomes available. We are eager to continue serving our community in this updated space.*

*We are also happy to announce the recent launch of our new and improved website. You can now visit [taneyhealth.gov](http://taneyhealth.gov) to find all the information you ever wanted about the Taney County Health Department. We've incorporated our most frequently asked questions and sought-after information in one streamlined location. I hope you'll find the new website to be helpful, informative, and easy to navigate.*

*When it comes to the sheer number of Taney County families we serve, I am always astounded. Below are just a few of our impactful highlights from the last year.*

- 1,863 Environmental Health Inspections completed across the County
- 64% increase in car seat safety education provided
- \$1,302,030 distributed in WIC dollars
- 3,910 immunizations given throughout the year

*2025 was a big and busy year for us. It looks like 2026 is already off to a strong start. Our team is hard at work throughout the community, focused on serving you and your public health needs. We are always grateful for another year of making Taney County a healthier and safer place every day.*

*Respectfully,*

*Lisa Marshall, MS, RD, LD*  
*Director, Taney County Health Department*



# Maternal Child Health

## WIC

WIC is a public health nutrition program that provides nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding education and support, healthy supplemental foods, healthcare referrals and screenings. WIC is available for income-eligible women who are pregnant or post-partum, infants, and children up to 5 years of age.

Parents, mothers or fathers, legal guardians, grandparents, and foster parents may enroll infants and children in WIC. Women, infants, and children who are currently active on SNAP, TANF, or Medicaid are automatically income-eligible for the WIC Program.



## Top 5 Risk Factors Identified during screenings, Ranked

<i><b>Prenatal Women</b></i>	<i><b>Infants</b></i>	<i><b>Children</b></i>
Inappropriate Nutrition Practices for Women	Breastfeeding Infant of Woman at Nutritional Risk	Dietary Risk Associated with Complementary Feeding Practices
Lack of or inadequate Prenatal Care	Infant up to 6 months old of WIC mother or of a woman who would have been eligible during pregnancy	Inappropriate Nutrition Practices for Children
High Maternal Weight Gain	Dietary Risk Associated with Complementary Feeding Practices	Low Hematocrit/Low Hemoglobin
Low Maternal Weight Gain	Inappropriate Nutrition Practices for Infants	Short Stature or At Risk of Short Stature
Overweight	Preterm or Early Term Delivery	Overweight or At Risk of Overweight

## Mobile Services

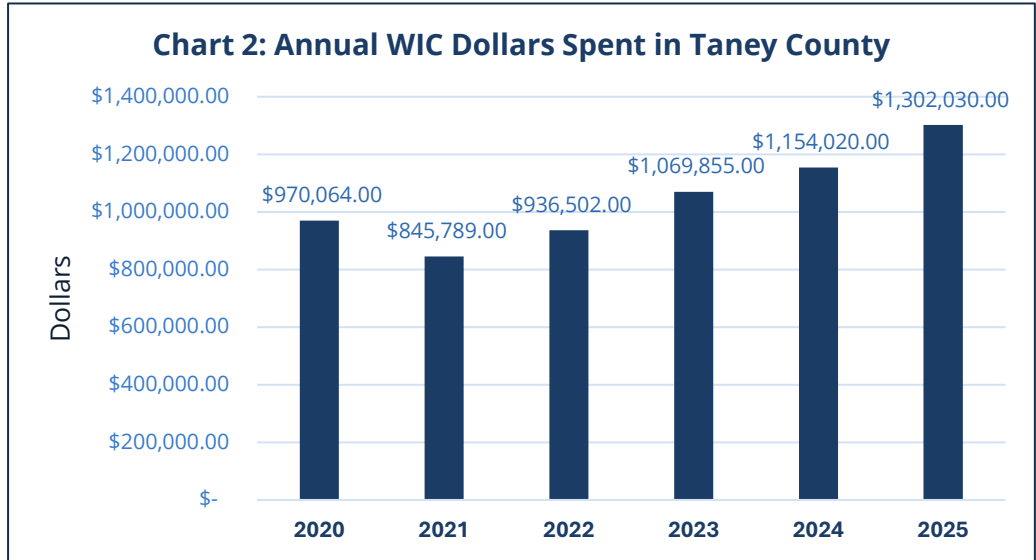
WIC mobile services began in April 2023 and continued through 2025 at five locations: The Penleigh and Gateway Church (Branson), Bridge of Faith Church (Rockaway Beach), White River Mountain Apartments (Hollister) and an added location this year at LODGE Ministries in Taneyville. All WIC services are available including nutrition education, certifications, hemoglobin checks, weight checks, and loading electronic WIC benefit cards.



# Maternal Child Health

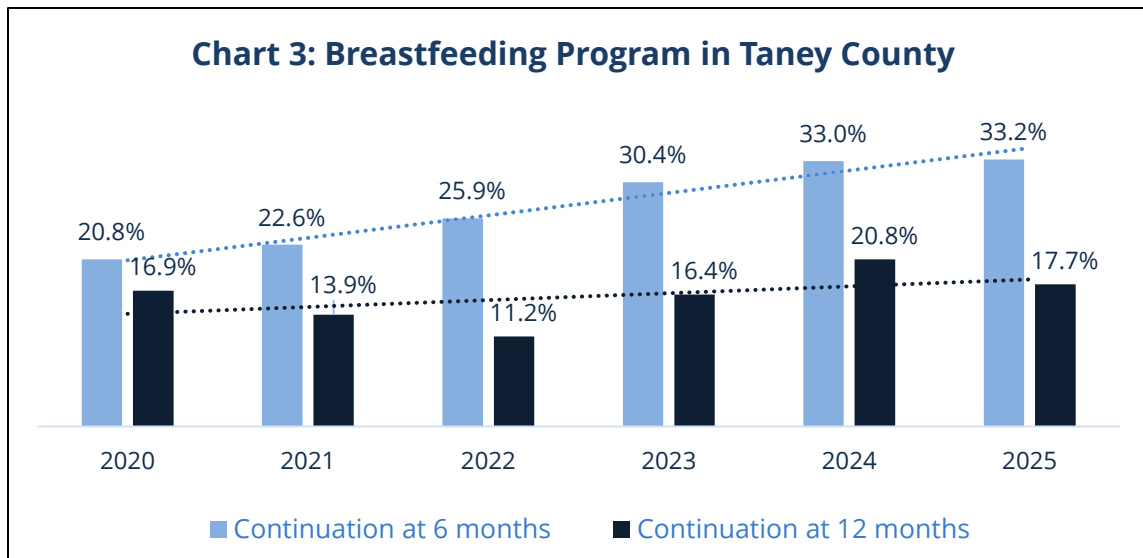
## WIC Dollars Spent Annually

Chart 2 displays the annual WIC dollars spent in Taney County, showing a steady increase in spending since 2022.



## Breastfeeding Program

Breastmilk is essential in immune system development. When compared with formula-fed infants, breastfed babies are less likely to have ear infections, stomach viruses, and respiratory infections. Breastmilk also contains growth factors that ensure best development of the baby's organs.



## Breastfeeding Awareness Walk

20 participants joined the annual breastfeeding one-mile steps for success walk in September to celebrate World Breastfeeding Week and learn breastfeeding facts. All WIC prenatal and breastfeeding clients were invited to join, and area organizations share offerings for the parents in the Taney County community.

## Chronic Disease Prevention

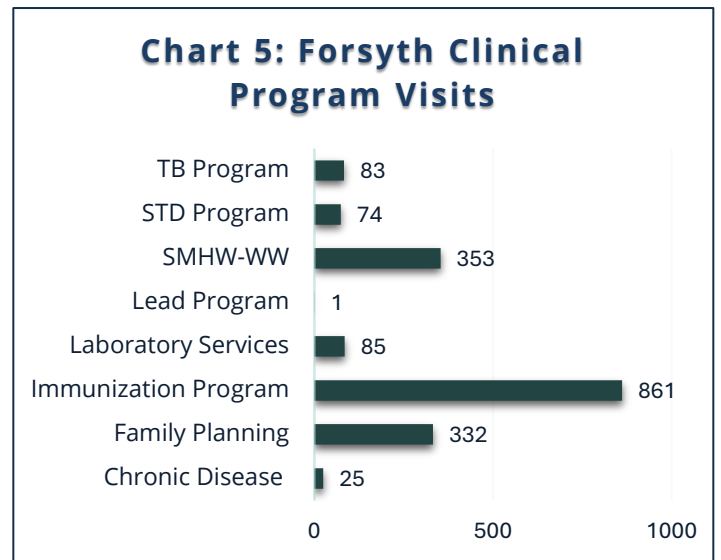
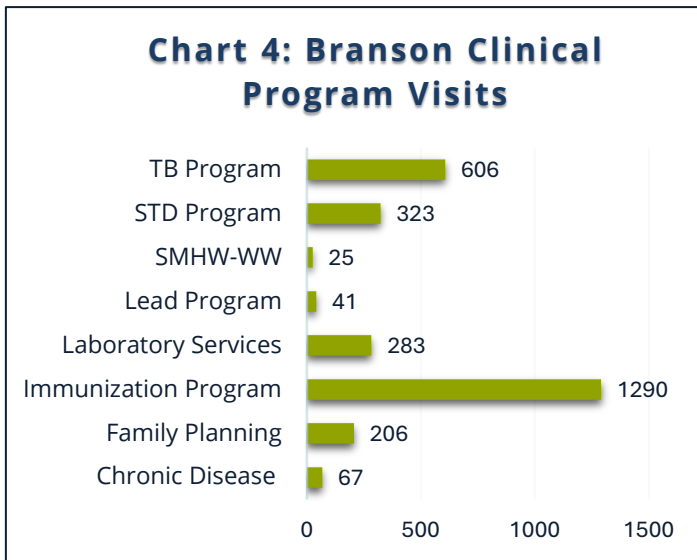
The Taney County Health Department provides breast and cervical cancer screenings through the Show Me Healthy Women Program at no charge for eligible women in Missouri. The Wise Woman Program focuses on heart disease and stroke prevention health screenings for eligible women along with risk counseling to encourage lifestyle changes. Other family planning patient services include birth control services, pregnancy testing and diagnostic referrals. Visits for these services are listed below.

### Family Planning Visits

In 2025, SMHW's breast and cervical screening services facilitated the early identification of abnormalities, enabling several clients to begin timely treatment. Throughout the year, the program also completed more than 20 diagnostic tests and follow-up evaluations, strengthening access to essential preventive care.



### Clinical Programs



### Healthy Aging Grant

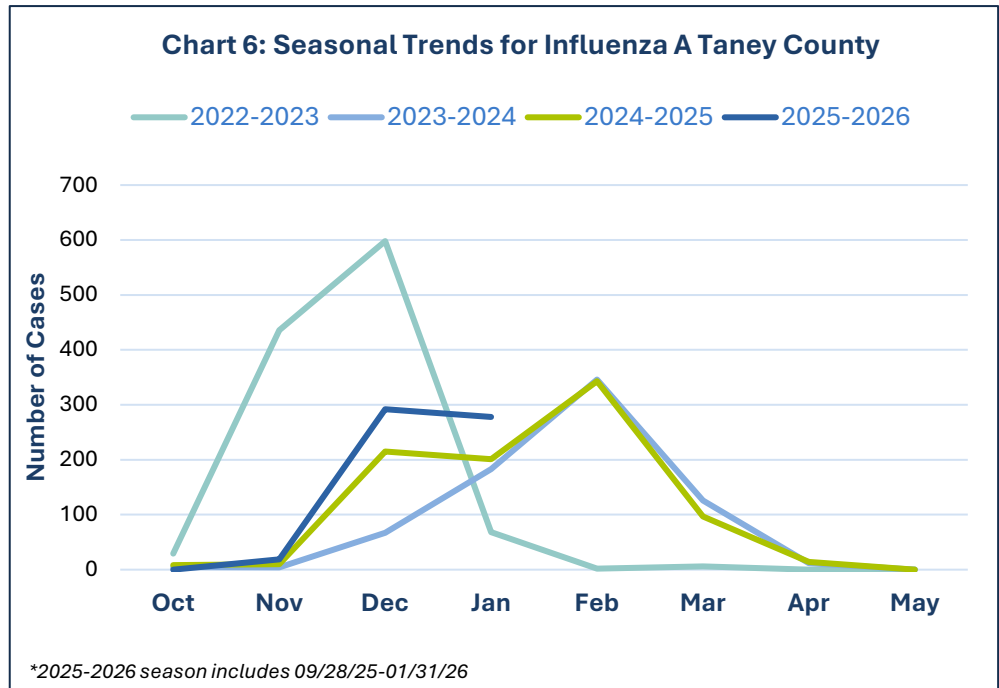
In 2024, TCHD began offering mobile heart health, diabetes screenings, and education to adults over 50. This program was funded through the Next50 Foundation and includes free lab testing for those who qualify, educational resources, and glucometer and blood pressure cuffs as supplies last. Approximately 142 people participated in the program. Contract activities for this grant will conclude in the Spring of 2026.

# Communicable Disease Control

Clinical services include, but are not limited, to immunizations, sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing and treatment, and case management of reportable communicable diseases. Please see the annual data below for STI reports, seasonal influenza information, and total immunizations administered at Taney County Health Department.

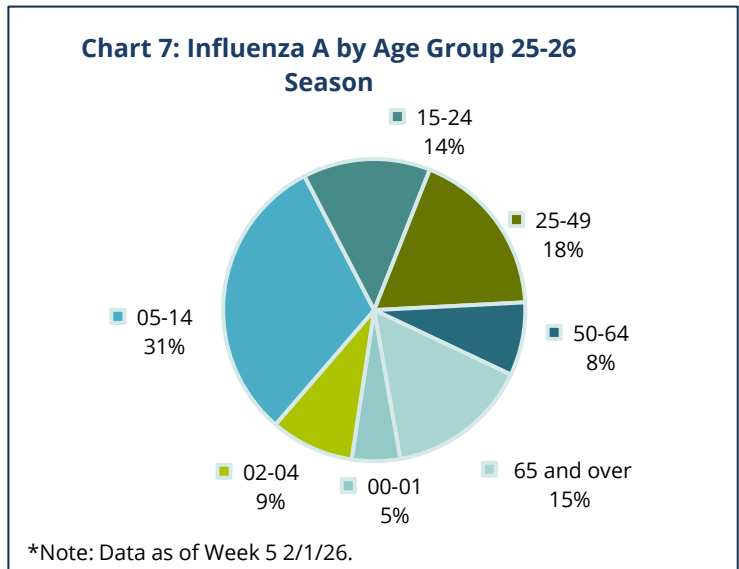
## Seasonal Trends for Influenza

The Taney County Health Department continues surveillance to identify differences in seasonal Influenza trends. The Influenza season occurs October-May each year. Chart 6 shows seasonal trends for Influenza A.



## Taney County Influenza by Age

This year the Taney County Health Department has included additional data about Influenza A cases by age range. Chart 7 indicates that the 5–14-year-old age group reported the highest percentage of Influenza A cases this year (31%). The second most reported cases by age is in the 25-49-year-old age group (18%).



# Communicable Disease Control

## Seasonal Influenza Counts by Type

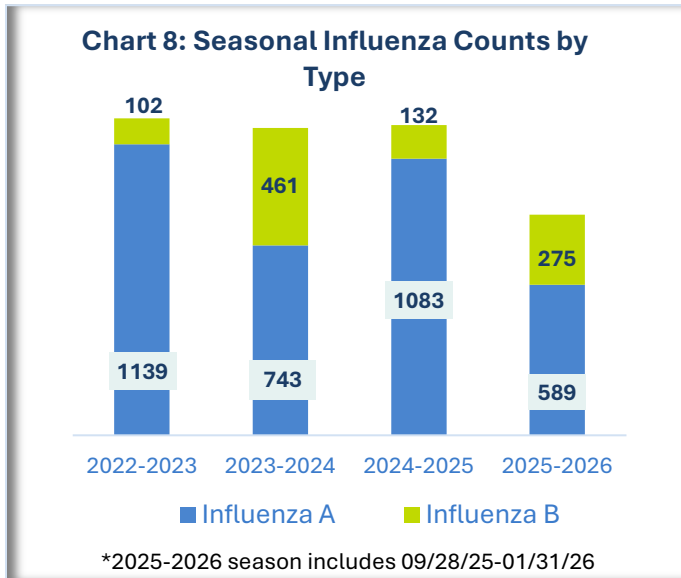
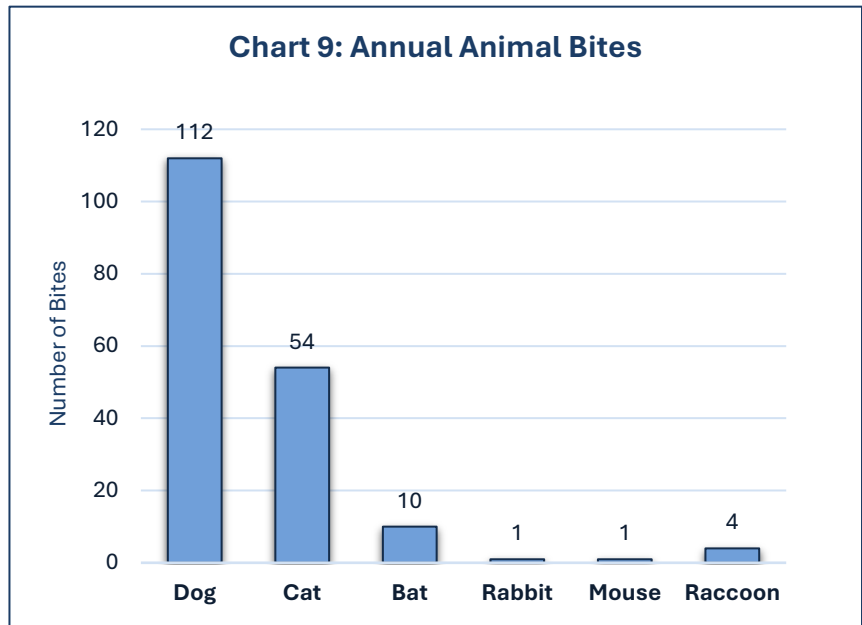


Chart 8 shows the annual influenza counts by type, comparing the differences in number of reported cases of Influenza A and B respectively. Influenza A is generally more severe, resulting in a higher number of emergency room visits and hospitalizations due to complications.

## Animal Bites

Taney County Health Department works with area law enforcement and health care providers to respond to animal bites. The TCHD team strives to prevent rabies infections. Bite wounds have a high risk of infection. Chart 9 provides the total animal bite reports received throughout the year. TCHD provided rabies prophylaxis to 29 residents in 2025.



## Adult Immunization Grant

The COVID-19 and Adult Vaccination Supplemental contract ended in early spring 2025. The contract supported local efforts to plan, develop and maintain a public health workforce to increase COVID-19 and adult vaccination rates across the county.

# Communicable Disease Control

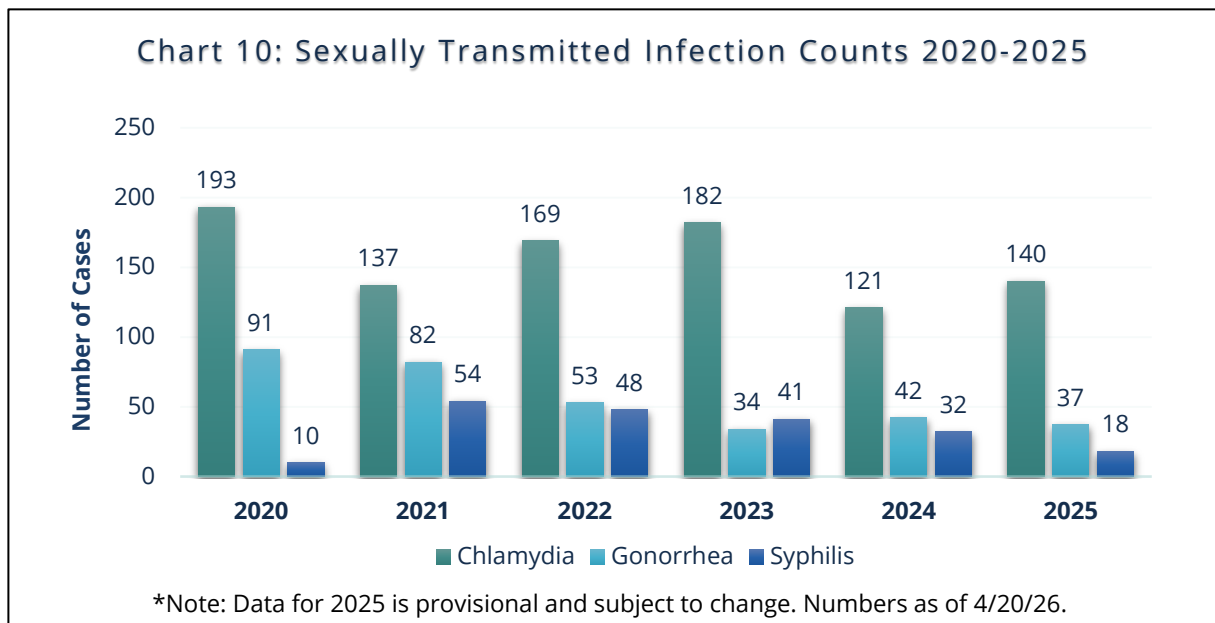
## Immunizations

TCHD participates in the no cost Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program and the Section 317 immunization program through CDC. The Section 317 program may provide vaccines to adults who are uninsured or whose insurance doesn't cover vaccines. This program may also be used in response to an outbreak. Total annual immunizations by program are noted in Table 1.

<b>Table 1: Annual Immunization Totals</b>	
317 Program	482
Not VFC Eligible	1719
<b>Vaccine for Children (VFC) Program</b>	
Children's Health Insurance Program	62
VFC Eligible-American Indian/Alaskan Native	1
VFC Eligible-Uninsured	914
VFC Eligible-Federally Qualified Health Center Patient (under-insured)	2
VFC Eligible-Medicaid/Medicaid Managed Care	730
<b>Total Vaccinations</b>	<b>3910</b>

## Sexually Transmitted Infections

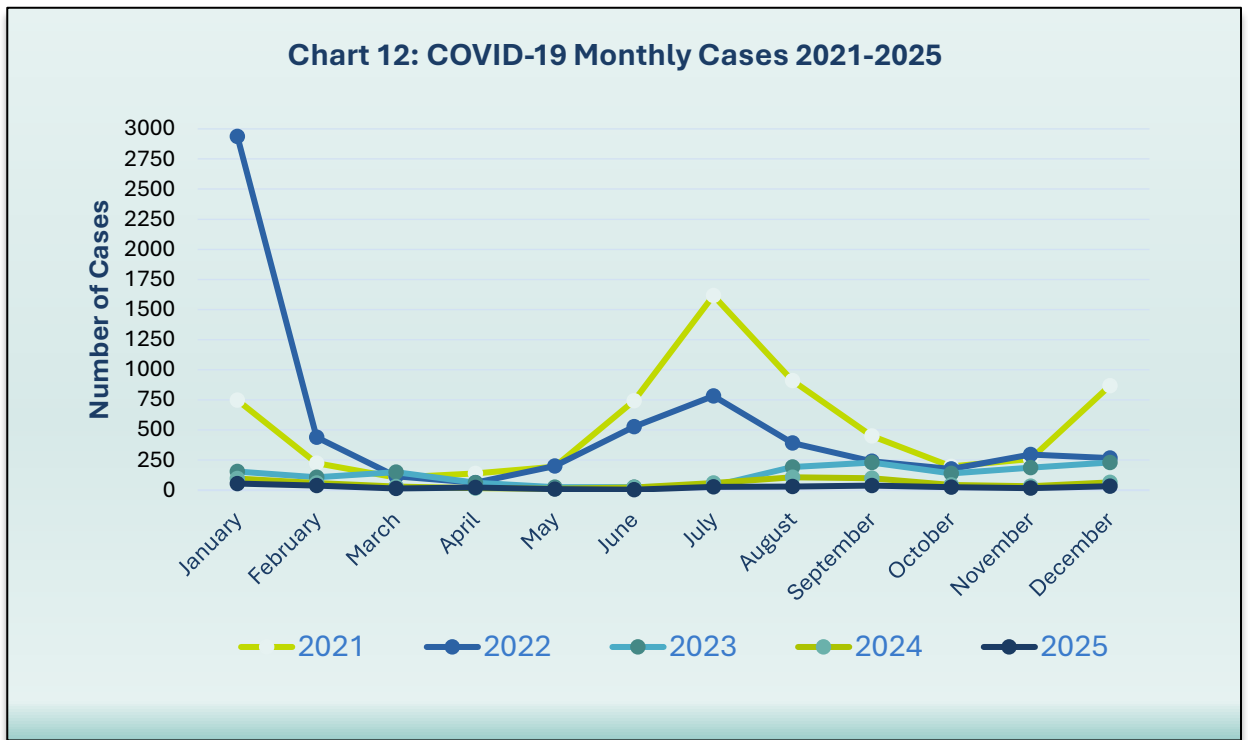
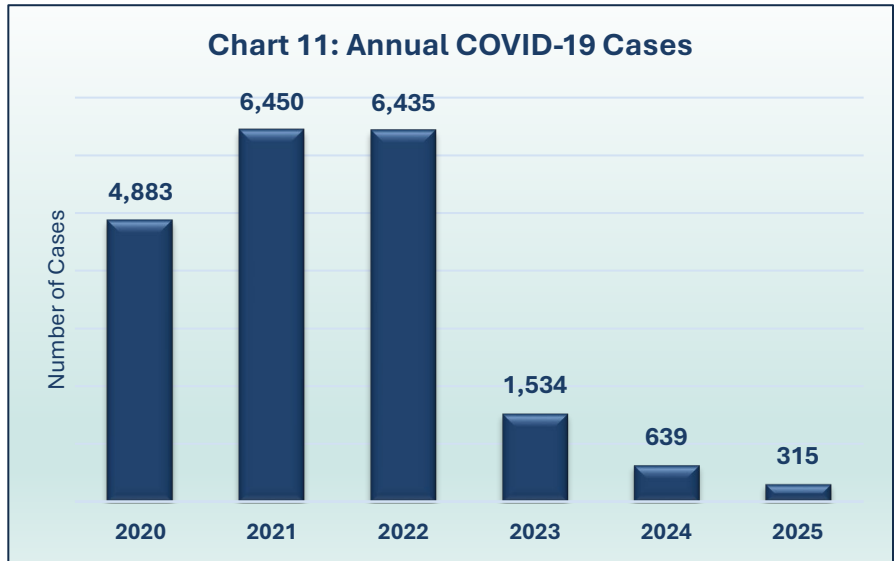
Clinical services include sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing and treatment. Chart 10 includes counts for Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Syphilis from 2020-2025.



# Communicable Disease Control

## COVID-19 Surveillance

This year TCHD observed a reduced number of COVID-19 reports compared to last year. Data in Chart 11 shows the total number of cases over time from 2020-2025, and the total number of cases by month throughout the year is reflected in Chart 12.



# Communicable Disease Control

Staff respond to communicable disease investigations to identify community risks and threats. TCHD investigated an increased number of pertussis cases. Pertussis, also called whooping cough, is a bacterial infection that causes cold-like symptoms, with coughs lasting up to 10 weeks. Coughing can become uncontrolled and include a whoop sound. Serious complications can include pauses in breathing, pneumonia, and brain damage. Vaccines help protect against whooping cough. Tuberculosis (TB) is an illness that affects the lungs. Active TB disease can be spread to another person. Latent TB infection cannot be spread to others. Long-term antibiotic treatment is available. Table 2 provides a summary of the communicable disease cases reported from 2019-2025.

**Table 2: Communicable Disease Cases 2019-2025**

Communicable Disease Condition	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Anaplasma	0	<5	<5	<5	0	0	0
Campylobacteriosis	16	<5	<5	<5	13	10	17
Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	0	0	<5	<5	0
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	<5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis	<5	0	<5	<5	<5	0	<10
E coli Shiga Toxin Positive	<5	<5	<5	<5	0	<5	<5
E. Coli 0157 H7	<5	<5	0	<5	<5	0	0
Ehrlichia Chaffeensis	14	15	<10	<10	17	10	12
Giardiasis	<5	0	<5	<5	<5	0	0
Haemophilus Influenzae, Invasive	<10	<5	<5	<5	<5	<10	0
Hepatitis A Acute	0	<10	<5	0	0	0	0
Hepatitis B Acute	<5	<5	<5	<5	0	<5	0
Legionellosis	<10	<5	0	<5	<5	<5	<5
Lyme	0	0	<5	0	0	0	0
Mycobacteria other than TB (MOTT)	<5	<10	<5	<10	<10	<10	<5
Pertussis	<10	0	0	0	<5	<5	15
Q Fever	0	<5	<5	<5	0	<5	0
Rabies Prophylaxis	<5	<10	13	12	25	14	29
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	<10	17	21	20	14	<10	0
Salmonellosis	15	<10	<10	<5	12	<10	<10
Shigellosis	<5	<5	0	<5	0	<5	<5
Strep Disease, Group A Invasive	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0
Strep Pneumoniae Invasive	<10	<10	<5	<10	<10	<10	<10
TB Disease	<5	0	0	0	<10	<5	<5
TB Latent Infection	12	<10	<10	25	55	16	53
Toxic Shock (STREP) Syndrome	<5	0	0	<5	<5	0	0
Tularemia	<10	<5	<5	0	<5	<5	0
Varicella	<5	0	0	<5	0	<5	<5
Vibriosis	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0
Yersiniosis	0	0	0	0	0	<5	0

Source: Missouri DHSS Disease counts for selected range Jurisdiction for 1/1/2019- 12/31/2025 Taney County.

# Linkage to Behavioral Health, Medical and Community Resources

## Community Outreach Events & Services

The Community Outreach team attends events throughout the year to promote the Department's mission in supporting a healthy and safe community for people to live, work and play. Efforts include continuing education and delivering in-depth training across academic institutions and partner organizations throughout the County.

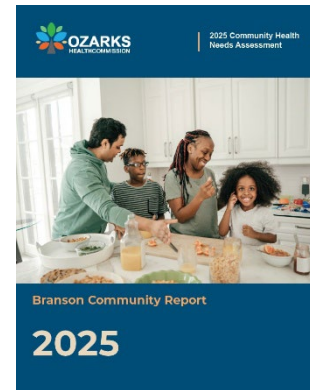
2025 Events and Services	
Boys and Girls Club Family Education Night	Senior Health Fair-Atlas Home Health and Therapy
OACAC Baby Shower	Penleigh Family Fun Night
Senior Resource Fair -Lady of the Lake Church Branson-4Ozark Seniors	Festival of Nations-Branson High School
Forsyth Boys and Girls Club-Family Education Night	Hollister Chamber of Commerce-Easter Egg Hunt- Hollister HS Football Stadium
Forsyth Chamber Spring Fling	Cedar Ridge Career Day
Buchanan Elementary Career Day	Buchanan Intermediate Career Day
Branson Bridge USA-J-1 Presentations-Branson Chamber	Brook Wellness Family Fun Day-Shoals Bend Park
Celebrate Families-Hobby Lobby Parking Lot- 4Ozark Seniors	First Baptist Church-Branson Back to School- Branson Rec Plex
First Baptist Forsyth-10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Tools for School-Forsyth	Boys & Girls Club Branson Back to School Fair
Branson United Methodist Church-Back to School Fair	Hollister Night of the Tiger
Recovery Jamboree-Sanctuary of Hope	OTC Hollister Fall Picnic
Brook Wellness 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet Forsyth Church 3:16	Mental Health 5k Run-Ozarks Serenity Club
Veteran's Appreciation Day-Shoppes at Branson Meadows	Hollister Senior Resource Fair-Real Life Church
Grape and Fall Festival-Hollister	Hollister Trunk or Treat
Taney County Children's Division Trunk or Treat	BOONanza Branson Rec Plex Trunk or Treat
Taney County Suicide Prevention-Community Partnership of Ozarks- "Start the Conversation" Boys & Girls Club Branson	
Buchanan Intermediate Career Day	SDC Employee Health Fair
Santa in the Park-Chad Fuqua Park-Hollister	Kirbyville Holiday Helpers Kirbyville Middle School

# Linkage to Behavioral Health, Medical and Community Resources

## Major Plans and Assessments

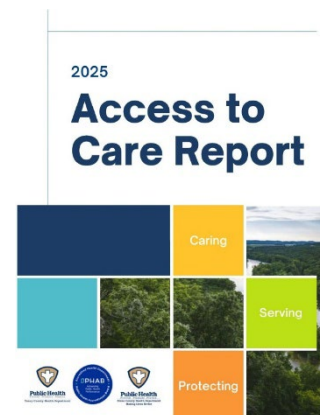
### Regional Community Health Needs Assessment

In 2025, the Taney County Health Department completed the Regional Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) led by the Ozarks Health Commission. This assessment is the result of local public health agencies (LPHAs) and health care partners working together to identify unified community health priorities. Findings from this assessment identified two health priorities: mental health and chronic disease.



### Access to Care Assessment

Upon completion of the CHNA, Taney and Stone County Health Departments worked with the community and partners who serve underserved and under-resourced populations to assess gaps in service and barriers to accessing health care. Some barriers identified from this assessment include unaffordable care, provider reimbursement for services, provider shortages, an uncoordinated healthcare system, and provider and community stigma surrounding mental health care. This assessment will inform the development of the Community Health Improvement Plan.



### Community Health Improvement Plan

In 2025, TCHD began engagement with county stakeholders and coalitions in the development of the 2026–2028 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP outlines a strategic effort to address chronic disease and mental health to ensure a unified community approach to improving population health. The CHIP was completed in early spring 2026.

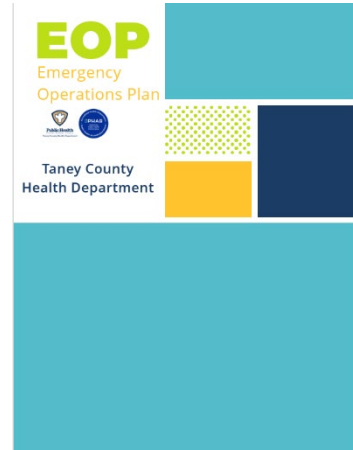
# Linkage to Behavioral Health, Medical and Community Resources

## Major Plans and Assessments Continued

### Emergency Operations Plan

In 2025, TCHD completed a significant update to the Emergency Operations Plan. This plan serves as a guide for coordinated response to emergencies including but not limited to disease outbreaks, foodborne illness outbreaks, natural disasters, environmental hazards and other public health emergencies.

This plan will complement the City of Branson Emergency Response Plan, and the Taney County Emergency Operations Plan.



### Public Health Accreditation Board

The Taney County Health Department has maintained national accreditation from the Public Health Accreditation Board since 2015. Our team remains committed to improving processes and strengthening programs to ensure Taney County receives high-quality public health services that meet national standards. The department applies for reaccreditation every five years, and the next cycle will occur in fall 2027.

In 2025, we completed several priority projects to meet accreditation requirements, including updates to the Emergency Operations Plan, IT Policy, Communications Plan, and Strategic Plan, as well as conducting an Access to Care Assessment for Taney County. These efforts reflect our ongoing dedication to excellence and readiness to uphold the highest standards of public health for our community.

### Maternal Child Health Grant

This state funded contract aims to empower change by increasing opportunities and education to support the positive outcomes for youth and families. The goal is to reduce the suicide death rate among youth 10-19 years old.

To achieve this goal, the Taney County Health Department trains the community in suicide awareness through **Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR)** suicide prevention training.

Since offering this service in 2022, a milestone was reached in 2025.

**1,576** people in Taney County have completed the QPR gatekeeper training through TCHD including **504 adults** and **1,072 youth**.

# Injury Prevention

## Narcan Distribution



The Taney County Health Department plays a critical role in injury prevention by promoting the distribution of Narcan to reverse opioid overdoses, which helps reduce preventable deaths and supports community safety. Narcan boxes were installed at the Branson and Forsyth locations this year.

By making Narcan accessible, and spreading awareness about car seat safety, public health professionals can significantly decrease injury related fatalities.

**Narcan Distribution** began in 2022 to promote the availability of Narcan and help reduce deaths due to opioid overdose. Since May 2022, approximately **1,083** doses have been distributed.

*These efforts align with broader goals to:*

**improve public safety,**

**reduce healthcare costs,** and

**promote healthier communities.**

## Car Seats

Other injury prevention initiatives focus on educating families and caregivers on the proper use of car seats, ensuring children are safely transported and minimizing the risk of injury during car accidents.

**Car seat safety education** was provided to 41 families, a **64%** increase compared to 2024. 44 seats were supplied to families in 2025, an increase of 16% from last year.

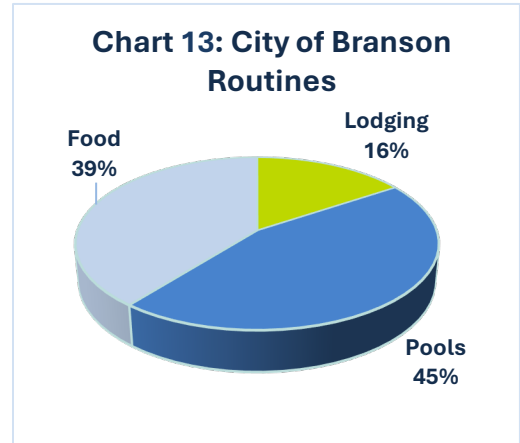
The Taney County Health Department has certified child passenger safety technicians to assist the community to transport children safely.

# Environmental Public Health

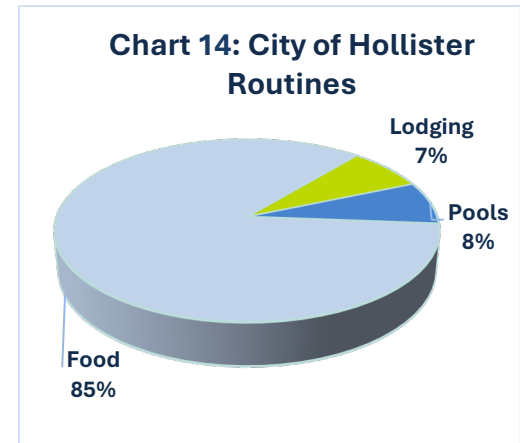
## Inspections

Inspections are completed for various programs including Lodging, Pools, and Food. TCHD’s Environmental Health Team oversees robust lodging, pool, and food inspection programs year-round. The data below show various inspections conducted within each program across Branson, Hollister, and Taney County.

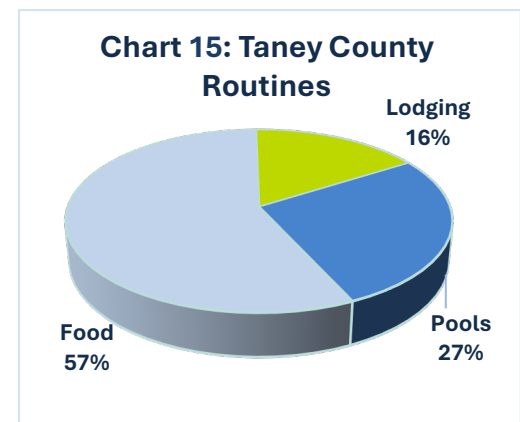
<b>Table 3</b>	<b>City of Branson</b>			
<b>Inspection Type</b>	<b>Lodging</b>	<b>Pools</b>	<b>Food</b>	<b>Total</b>
Routine	116	333	290	739
Revisit	108	140	95	343
Pre-Opening	18	18	54	90
Revisit-Pre-Opening	6	17	28	51
Complaint	46	5	82	133
Revisit- Complaint	20	1	13	34
Consultation	3	13	15	31
Fire/Flood/Emergency	0	0	13	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>1434</b>



<b>Table 4</b>	<b>City of Hollister</b>			
<b>Inspection Type</b>	<b>Lodging</b>	<b>Pools</b>	<b>Food</b>	<b>Total</b>
Routine	4	4	45	53
Revisit	7	0	11	18
Pre-Opening	0	0	6	6
Revisit-Pre-Opening	0	0	3	3
Complaint	2	1	15	18
Revisit- Complaint	4	6	1	11
Consultation	0	1	2	3
Fire/Flood/Emergency	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>112</b>



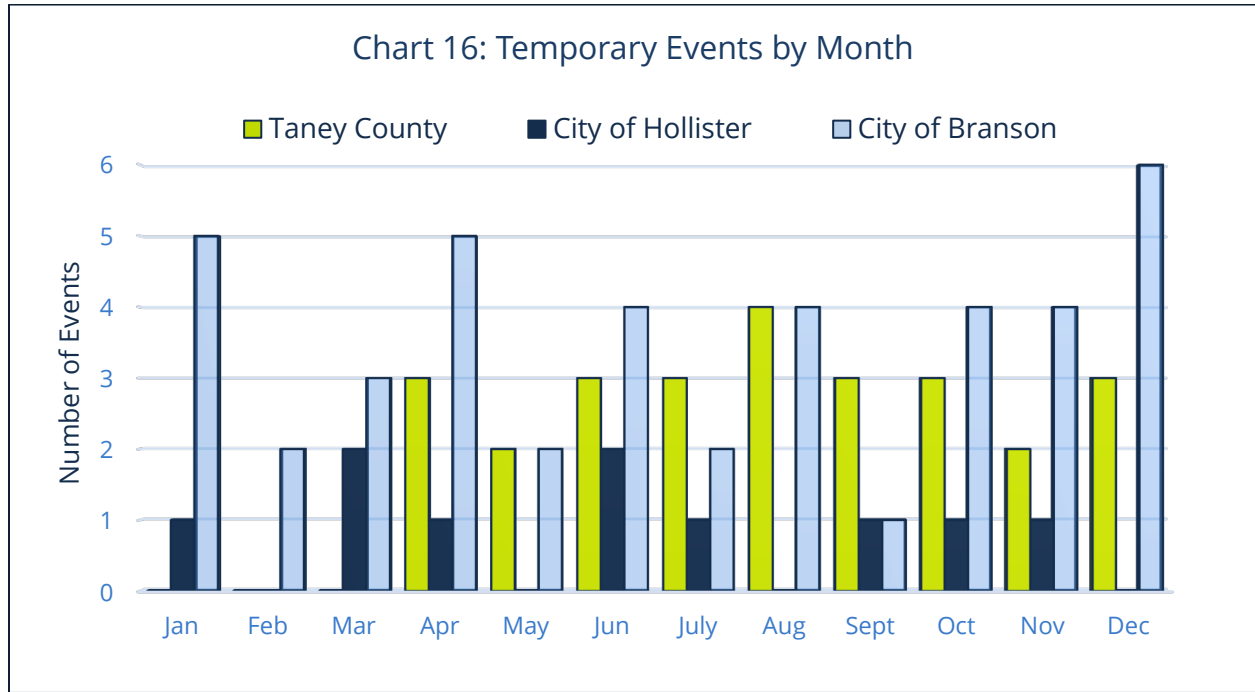
<b>Table 5</b>	<b>Taney County</b>			
<b>Inspection Type</b>	<b>Lodging</b>	<b>Pools</b>	<b>Food</b>	<b>Total</b>
Routine	26	43	90	159
Revisit	15	9	24	48
Pre-Opening	9	3	37	49
Revisit-Pre-Opening	2	1	18	21
Complaint	1	4	19	24
Revisit- Complaint	0	1	5	6
Consultation	0	2	5	7
Fire/Flood/Emergency	0	0	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>317</b>



# Environmental Public Health

## Temporary Event Permits

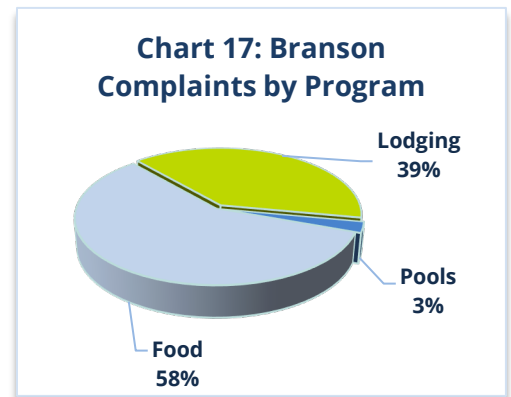
Temporary Events are held throughout the year. Vendors offering food at these events must obtain a Temporary Event Permit to operate. The Environmental Health Team inspects all permitted food vendors present at the events. The total number of events held each month by jurisdiction is shown below in Chart 16. Taney County held 26 events, the City of Hollister held 10 events, and the City of Branson held 42 events for a total of 78 events in 2025.



## Complaints

Complaints are investigated by the Environmental Health Team to make sure facilities are operating according to applicable codes and regulations. Our Environmental Health Specialists provide education and training to food handlers and facility managers during inspections to help reduce safety and sanitation risks in the community. Table 6 shows the number of complaints by program for 2025.

Program	Branson	Hollister	County	Total
Food Establishment	90	14	26	130
Lodging Establishment	61	2	2	65
Pool Establishment	4	0	4	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>203</b>



## Environmental Public Health

### Water Sampling and Testing

The Taney County Health Department is certified by the Department of Natural Resources to test drinking water sources. Water samples are tested for Escherichia coli (E. coli) and coliforms which are bacteria that can make people ill if consumed. Table 7 shows the number of drinking water samples tested and their results in 2025.

Table 7: 2025 Public Drinking Water Lab Sample Counts					
Type	Private	Public Community	Public Non-Community	Water Source Not Identified	Total
No E. coli or coliforms present	322	166	11	15	514
Coliform present; no E. coli present	69	19	1	2	91
Coliforms and E. coli present	9	1	0	1	11
Total	400	186	12	18	616

### Water Sample Types Defined



**Private:** A well that is not part of a public system and exists on private property serving a household.

**Public Community:** A public water system that supplies water to at least 15 service connections or 25 people year-round.

**Public Non-Community:** A public water system that provides water to a service connection where people do not remain for long periods of time and no more than six months out of the year.

# Workforce Development and Preparedness

## Workforce Development Plan

Taney County Health Department developed and implemented a new Workforce Development Plan to strengthen staff capacity, support professional growth, and align employee development with organizational and public health priorities. The updated Workforce Development Plan provides a structured approach to continuous learning, workforce sustainability, and improved service delivery to the community.

As part of this process, employees completed the Public Health Core Competency assessments, allowing leadership to:

- Identify current strengths and skill gaps across the organization
- Align training opportunities with staff needs
- Support targeted professional development and cross-training
- Ensure workforce competencies align with evolving public health demands

## Paylocity

Taney County Health Department transitioned to Paylocity in 2025 to better support workforce and payroll operations and to meet the need for improved integration with QuickBooks. Paylocity is used to support payroll processing, timekeeping, benefits administration, and employee access to employment information. The transition provided a more centralized system for routine human resources workflow and supported integration between payroll and financial systems.

## Employee of the Quarter

Taney County Health Department recognized outstanding staff members through the Employee of the Quarter program. David Fowler, Jacob Williams, and Jezabel Campos-Salvador were selected for their demonstrated commitment to TCHD’s core values of Caring, Serving, and Protecting, as well as their dedication, teamwork, and positive impact on the organization and the community.

## Employee Trainings

<b>Public Health Foundations &amp; Professional Development</b>		
Public Health Basics	NACCHO 360 Conference	Keeping the Flow Conference
Governmental Public Health Summit	Missouri Joint Public Health Conference	Missouri Environmental Health Association (MEHA) Conference
Missouri Suicide Prevention Network (MOSPN) Annual Conference	Missouri Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Conference	SHRM Leadership Business Conference

<b><i>Emergency Preparedness &amp; Response</i></b>		
Four Corners Emergency Management	WebEOC (Emergency Operations Center) Training	Point of Dispensing (POD) Training
Crisis Communication Training	State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Region D Integrated Preparedness	Medical Countermeasure POD Training
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Childcare and Emergency Response	SEMA: Enhancing Planning, Preparedness, and Response to Pandemics	Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Spring Planners Meeting
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters		Stone/Taney Joint Public Health Department Tabletop Exercise
<b><i>Environmental Health &amp; Safety</i></b>		
Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Refresher Training		Lead Case Management
Crown Manager & Situational Awareness Training	Strategies to Prevent Measles Transmission	Advanced Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP)
<b><i>Clinical, Nutrition &amp; Maternal Health</i></b>		
Maternal Child Health Conference	2025 National WIC Association Nutrition and Breastfeeding Training	
Summer Food Service Program	Probiotics and the Microbiome during Pregnancy	
Missouri WIC Association Strategic Planning	Today's Dietitian Online Webinars	Provider Staff Training
<b><i>Leadership, Management &amp; Organizational Skills</i></b>		
Writing Policies and Procedures	Grant Writing Academy	Lodging with Clarity
Mood Manager Training	Artificial Intelligence in the Workplace Training	
<b><i>Technology, Data &amp; GIS</i></b>		
Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) User Conference		
<b><i>Certifications &amp; Credentialing</i></b>		
Certified Pool & Spa (CPO) Certification	Certified Public Health (CPH) Exam	
<b><i>Compliance &amp; Workforce Regulations</i></b>		
Employment Law & Legislative Update		

## Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)

The purpose of the PHEP grant is to demonstrate measurable and sustainable progress toward achieving public health and health care preparedness capabilities. The Taney County Health Department has selected these areas below to enhance efforts throughout 2025-2026.

### Mass Care



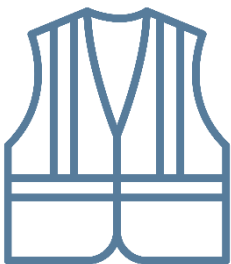
The Taney County Health Department Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) was updated in August 2025. Lead roles were assigned amongst respective agencies to support disaster response and recovery operations in Taney County. American Red Cross is established as the lead role for mass care, while TCHD will serve as lead in public health and medical services.

### Information Sharing



Maintaining situational awareness during incidents is essential for efficient response. A Foodborne Illness Outbreak Tabletop Exercise was held between Stone and Taney Health Departments, local hospitals, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, local fire, school districts, and Silver Dollar City to identify improvements that can be made to enhance services during large-scale incidents. Agencies identified improvements to protocols to strengthen communication between environmental services and health care providers.

### Volunteer Management

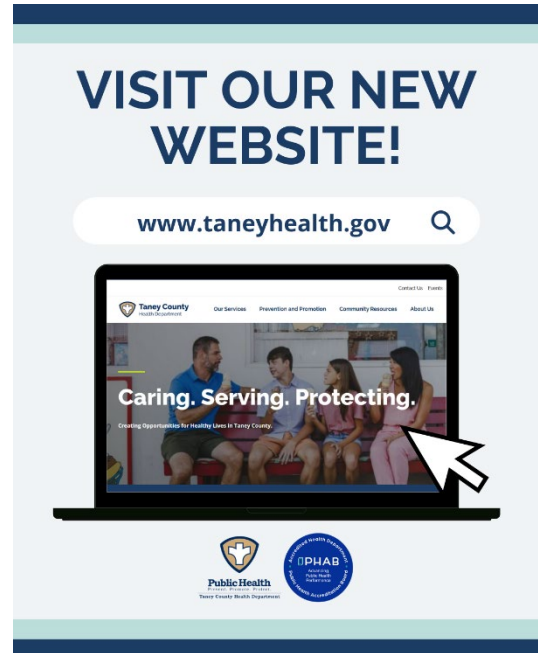


Volunteer assistance during mass incidents increases service capacity aiding in response. Volunteers from various disciplines such as retired health care personnel, Communities Active in Disaster (COAD), and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) groups may participate as identified in the jurisdictional risk assessment completed by the Taney County Health Department.

## Department Updates

### New Website

In 2025, TCHD revitalized its website to better serve the needs of the community. The website serves as a resource with increased accessibility and a user-friendly format. All divisions worked together to provide input on content, page construction, and navigation.



### Social Media Metrics

Growing TCHD's social media presence was a goal for the Community Outreach Team in 2025. Facebook, Instagram, and X had significant increases in popularity, as shown in the graphic below. The most astonishing metric is the jump from 2,310 total engagement across all posts in 2024 (this includes all likes, comments, and shares) to 8,737 total engagement in 2025. This 278% increase is something the team is extremely proud of. TCHD also began posting consistently to LinkedIn and YouTube in 2025. In May, TCHD officially adopted a Social Media Policy. This document outlines the expectations for community interactions on TCHD pages. Having an updated and accurate social media policy ensures a positive and respectful environment for all who visit TCHD via social media platforms.



# Dedication

**This year we are dedicating this annual report to  
*Jo Ann Sanchez.***

**She devoted 25 years of service to the Taney County Health Department as a valued member of our organization and to the residents and visitors of Taney County.**

While at TCHD, Jo Ann worked as an Administrative Clerk for the Clinical Division, as a Billing Clerk for the Accounting Division, and most recently as an Administrative Clerk for the Environmental Health Division.

As an Administrative Clerk for the Environmental Health Division, Jo Ann served as one of the front-line team members for the Environmental Health Team, working with prospective business owners through the permitting process, and with representatives from local government entities to ensure that facilities had the necessary requisites for business licensure.

She worked with local residents who were concerned about the safety of their drinking water, and with other members of the Environmental Health Team, ensuring that everyone had the necessary information to fulfill their roles successfully. She was always willing to offer her time and help to other colleagues in our shared mission of creating a healthy and safe community for people to live, work, and play, today and in the future.



“May the memories we have of Jo bring **smiles, laughter, and comfort**, and just as she was a rainbow in our clouds, may we try to be rainbows in the clouds of others in remembrance of her.”

“Jo **cared about others**, including strangers. She often would **go the extra mile** to help someone whether it be trying to connect someone with resources to just lending a **listening ear** for a few extra minutes.”

**Jo Ann will be dearly missed as a colleague and, most importantly, as a friend by all.**

# Taney County Health Department

## Locations



**Branson**  
320 Rinehart Road.  
Branson, MO 65616  
417-334-4544



**Forsyth**  
15479 State Highway 160  
Forsyth, MO 65653  
417-546-4725

## Service Area

The health department is responsible for all of Taney County. Taney County Health Department serves a population of nearly 57,000 residents, nearly 10.2 million visitors per year, and provides a variety of services throughout the county.



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
Taney County Health Department



*Eligibility criteria for acceptance and participation in the programs of this agency are administered on a nondiscriminatory basis regardless of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, genetic information, or disability.*