

Board of Health AGENDA

A Board of Health meeting will be held **Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 12:00 PM**
in the **THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM C**, at the Health Department, **101 W. 9th St.**

(Lunch for Board Members will be served at 11:30 a.m.)

- A. 12:00 – 12:01 PM – Call to Order and Approval / Changes to Agenda **(Action Required)**
- B. 12:01 – 12:02 PM – Approval of Board of Health Meeting Minutes held Feb. 28, 2024 **(Action Required)**
- C. 12:02 – 12:05 PM – Public Forum
- D. 12:05 – 12:10 PM – Announce Public Health Champion for 2024
- E. 12:10-12:25 PM – Academic Health Partnership (Presentation)
- F. 12:25 – 12:30 PM – Budget and Finance
 - Monthly Financial Report – February 2024 **(Action Required)**
 - Contracts **(Action Required)**
- G. 12:30 – 12:45 PM – Fee Analysis: OWTS Transfer of Title and Land Use **(Action Required)**
- H. 12:45 – 1:00 PM – BOH Updates/ Reports
 - Director’s Report
 - Legislative Updates

ADJOURN



Pueblo Board of Health Meeting Minutes February 28, 2024

The Pueblo Board of Health meeting was held at the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment (PDPHE) building at 101 W 9th St.

Board Members Present:

Donald Moore, Board President
Ed Brown, Vice President
Eileen Dennis, Board Member (via Zoom)
Zsuzsa Glasscock, Board Member
Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha, Board Member

Legal Counsel:

Marci Day, Assistant County Attorney

Administrative Staff Present:

Randy Evetts, Public Health Director
Katie Davis, Deputy Director
Georgia Alfonso, Budget and Finance Office (BFO) Director
Chad Wolgram, Environmental Health (EH) Director
Shylo Dennison, Community Engagement, Prevention, and Response (CEPR) Director
Denise DeNardo, Human Resources Manager
Jonathan Hontz, Administrative Assistant

Other Staff Members Present:

Dr. Brad Roberts, Chief Medical Officer
Alex Tapia, Communicable Disease Specialist
Julian Lucero, Communicable Disease Specialist
Alicia Solis, Program Manager
Justin Gage, Program Manager
Corrie Westwood, Public Health Nurse
Brenda Tracy, Public Health Nurse
Trysten Garcia, Public Information Officer

Guests:

There were no guests present.

Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Ed Brown, seconded by Zsuzsa Glasscock, to approve the Feb. 28, 2024, Board of Health meeting agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

Donald Moore asked the Board for revisions to the minutes. There were none.

MOVED by Zsuzsa Glasscock, seconded by Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha, to approve the Jan. 24, 2024 BOH meeting minutes as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Forum

There were no requests for public comment.

Election of 2023 Board of Health Officers

MOVED by Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha, seconded by Eileen Dennis, to elect Donald Moore as President and Zsuzsa Glasscock as Vice President effective March 1, 2024.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Board Member for Public Health Champion Committee

Zsuzsa Glasscock volunteered to serve on the Public Health Champion Committee.

Medical Officer Update

Dr. Brad Roberts presented information on area trends in disease and medicine. He took the time to acknowledge the Communicable Disease (CD) Team and gave a presentation with data on reportable diseases in the County. A copy of the presentation appears at the end of these minutes.

Donald Moore asked if last fall's vaccine contributed to the less-severe COVID. Dr. Roberts answered that it is too soon to tell from current data what the actual impact was. He also asked about the measles outbreak in Florida. Dr. Roberts attributes this to vaccine hesitancy, and he is watching this to look for signs that the virus is mutating. Dr. Roberts shared that vaccines for measles are down nationwide, including Pueblo. Justin Gage added that there are an increasing number of non-medical vaccination waivers being issued for MMR vaccines, with the schools at about 95% compliance for vaccination.

Budget and Finance

Monthly Financial Reports

BFO Director Georgia Alfonso presented financial reports for January 2024. Revenue tends to show higher in January as many billing cycles begin in that month, while expenses are more spread out over the year. Committed General Operating Fund balance (85-day operating reserve) has gone down as our annual budget has gone down, reflecting the fact that it now

costs less to keep PDPHE operating for 85 days than it had in previous years when the operating budget was higher.

MOVED by Ed Brown, seconded by Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha, to accept the January 2024 financial reports as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Contracts

There were no contracts presented at this meeting.

Public Health Director's Report

- Katie Davis began with legislative updates:
 - Raw Milk bill will probably pass; PDPHE has been opposed due to the communicable disease risk.
 - The Child Fatality review modifications bill has been postponed indefinitely.
 - Long Bill funding is still up in the air, with \$250,000 hanging in the balance for PDPHE.
 - Several LPHAs are working to draft a bill to increase syphilis screening for pregnant mothers; Katie asked for the Board's support to help actively support this bill, should that be necessary.
 - Donald Moore asked if the potential law accords with what best medical practice is. Katie answered that the law would follow CDC best practice. Donald said that he would have no problem actively supporting such legislation as long as it follows best practices. Eileen Dennis agreed with Donald's position, and believes that we need to speak up as representatives of a community with high syphilis rates.
- Randy Evetts reminded the Board of their annual required training. Eileen commented that the training site is not user friendly, and that there are some difficulties completing the training and getting record of completion.
- Randy reported that PDPHE had a very successful emergency exercise, which simulated a response to a botulism outbreak. He commended the PDPHE team for their participation and the lessons learned.
- In a community emergency, public health is responsible for Emergency Services Function #8 (ESF8) and next week all senior leaders will be trained to staff the ESF8 desk at the Emergency Operations Center(EOC). Randy invited any interested Board members to take a tour of the EOC.
- Randy stated that PDPHE is beginning to carefully examine how our community would respond to a large number of immigrants arriving unannounced in our County. Various communicable diseases could arrive with these populations if they are not sufficiently vaccinated and PDPHE would need to respond. Shelter, food, medical care, and other services would also be coordinated. PDPHE and other

community partners would need to respond and support this situation. Therefore, PDPHE is working on the public health plan for response.

- PDPHE participated in Pueblo County Integrated Preparedness Planning, where many area agencies discuss pressing emergency preparedness needs based on current issues. The immigration issue was raised, as were active shooter events.
- Last week, PDPHE had a very successful meeting with our academic partner CSU-P. This relationship is looking to strengthen cooperation to improve research, data collection, and internship opportunities. A more complete presentation about the Academic Health Partnership will be presented to the BOH in March.
- Eight or nine PDPHE staff participated in the poverty simulation hosted by St. Mary-Corwin with good results.
- There was a community response to the Rodeway Inn, a multi-agency operation brought on by multiple issues. The Rodeway Inn was closed as a result, and remains closed. The next hearing is scheduled for March 22, 2024. Randy emphasized that PDPHE was not solely responsible for closing the Inn, although local media had incorrectly reported that.
 - Donald Moore asked what had ultimately closed the business. Chad Wolgram answered that the City declared the Inn a public nuisance, which suspended their business license. PDPHE, Fire, and Regional Building all need to approve required repairs and remediation efforts before the license can be re-instated.
- PDPHE leadership will be meeting with Mayor Graham and Mark Aliff to give an orientation to these officials and to explain the role of public health and the difference between CDPHE and PDPHE.

Executive Session

Donald Moore adjourned the Board of Health meeting at 12:50 PM, and went into Executive Session for the following reason:

- For discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of the Board; the appointment of any person to fill an office of the Board; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees.

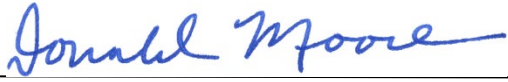
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Ed Brown, seconded by Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha, to adjourn the Executive Session at 12:52 PM.

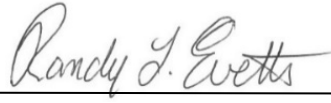
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next BOH Meeting

Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 12:00 noon.



Donald Moore, Board of Health President



Randy Evetts, MPA, Public Health Director

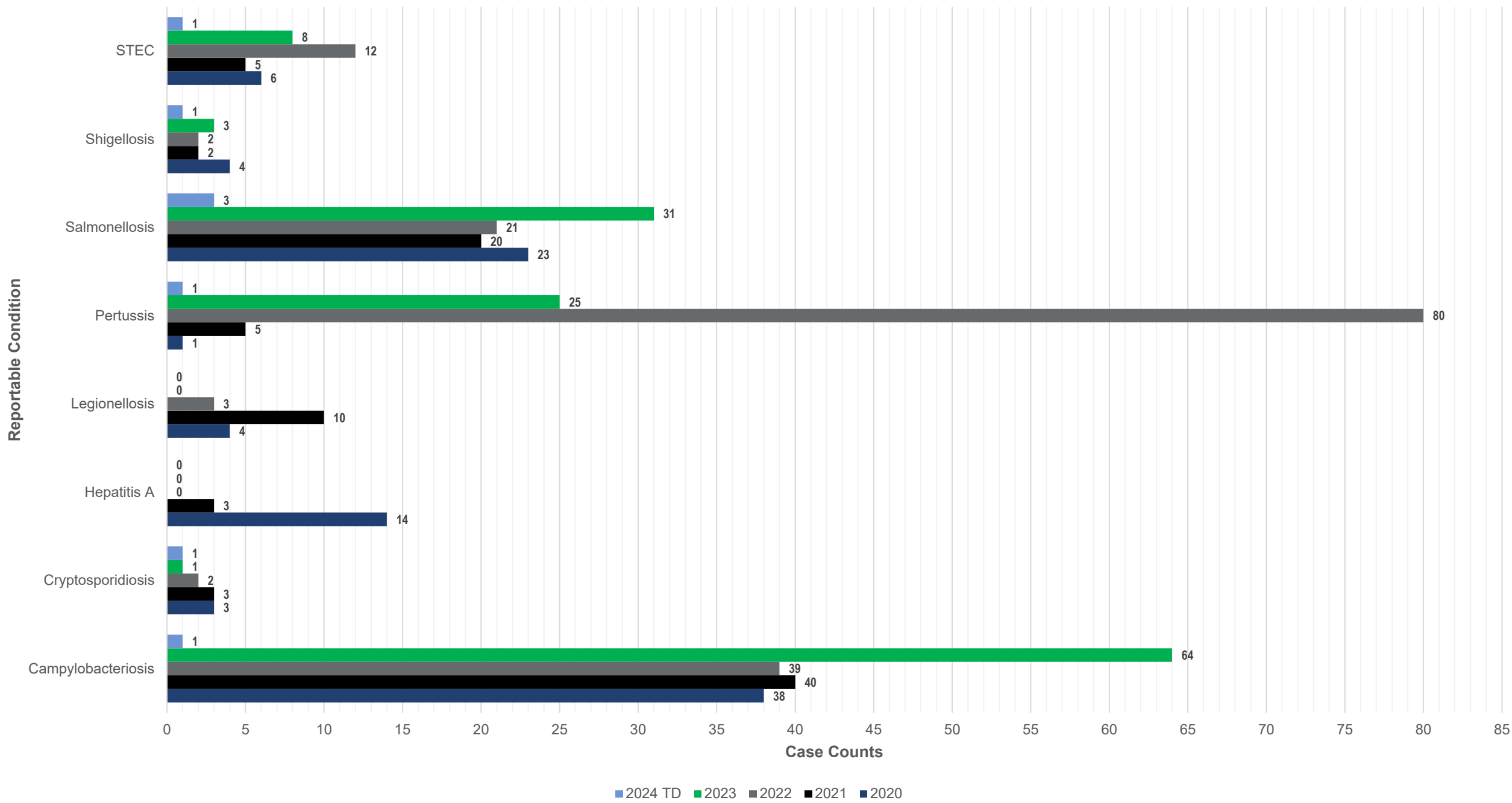
Submitted by Jonathan Hontz
Administrative Assistant

Board of Health Update

Brad Roberts, MD | February 21, 2023

On behalf of the Communicable Disease Team

Pueblo County Common Reportable Diseases, Jan. 2020-Feb. 06, 2024



Rabies Testing Data

January 1 – December 31, 2023

Species	Testing/Results		Exposed			
Type	Animals Tested	Rabies Positive	Humans	Dogs	Cats	Ferrets
Bats	28	2 (1)**	5	15	4	0
Skunks	3	0	0	2	0	0
Raccoons	3	0	0	3	0	0
Dogs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cats	1	1	1	0	2*	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total ***	35	3	6	20	6	0

* Feral Cat Colonies: Many more cats connected may have been exposed to dead bats found, but visual confirmation of contact was not able to be determined or given.

** Specimens that are considered unsatisfactory and inconclusive test results are treated as positive.

*** 12 specimens received were not able to be tested due to condition. Identified exposures followed positive specimen guidance.

Animal Bites Data

January 1 – December 31, 2023*				
Species	Wild Animals**	Domestic Animals***		
Type		Owned	Stray/Feral	Unknown/Blank
Bats	21	-	-	-
Skunks	3	-	-	-
Raccoons	2	-	-	-
Dogs	-	307	45	27
Cats	-	58	29	2
Other	0	1	0	1
Total	26	366	74	30

* Total reported animal bites for 2022 was 418 and for 2023 was 496. 17.1% increase in reported animal bites.

**26 of the 496 animal bites were from wild animals (5.2%).

***366 of the 496 animal bites were from owned domestic animals (73.8%).

Tuberculosis - 2023

A total of 34 cases referred to Public Health TB Disease (Active)

1 diagnosed August 2023 (Bovine TB)

Continues on treatment, medically compromised due to organ transplant

Pulmonary and Ileocecal infection

TB Infection (Latent)

14 cases

Most receiving or completed treatment

Referral for work-up (Active or Latent)

9 cases with negative sputa results for TB

1 case not determined due to lost to contact or refusal

2022 Total for Colorado

57 TB disease cases

(increase of 11.5% from 2020)

2022 Pueblo County Incidence Rate

0.6/100,000, same as 2019-2021

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Reported Positive Tests

	Chlamydia				Gonorrhea				Syphilis				New HIV			
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020	2021	2022	2023
PDPHE	69	52	76	70	23	18	32	33	14	27	48	37	0	1	2	2
Pueblo County	992	964	987	910	369	458	481	355	123	214	394	334	4	16	13	14
CO	25,230	26,377	26,110	26,055	9,593	10,458	8,567	7,650	1,671	2,104	2,753	2,970	308	387	394	448

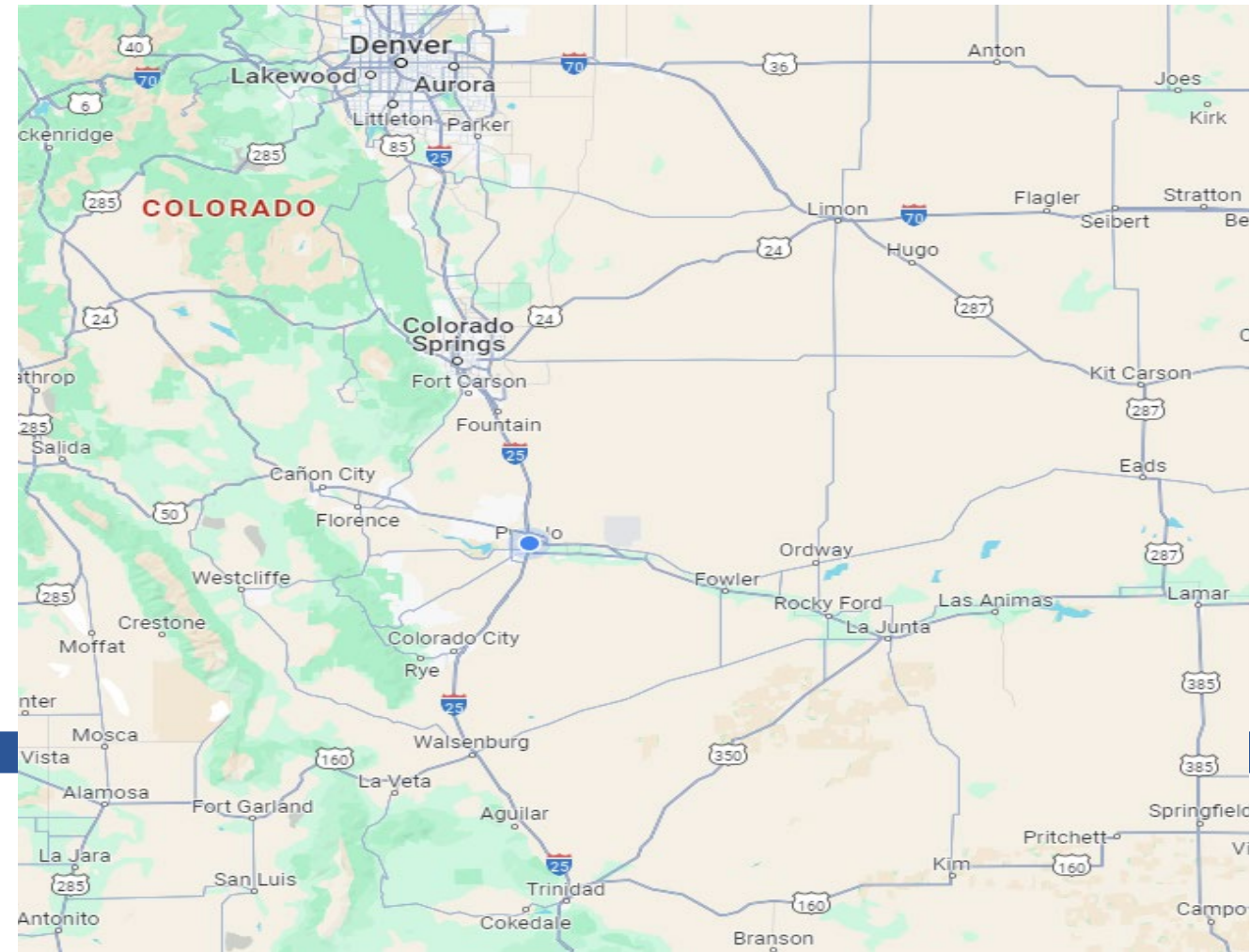
Congenital Syphilis Elimination Grant

Syphilis cases (Pueblo County Detention Center, Judicial Building intake and Field Delivered Therapy from Jan. 01 through Dec. 31, 2023)

- Detention Center and Judicial Building Intake
 - Screened – 180
 - (+) Pregnancy result – 11
 - Treated - 44
- Field Delivered Therapy
 - Referrals - 40
 - (+) Pregnancy result – 5
 - Treated - 40
 - Identified partners - 6
 - Treated - 6
- Percent positivity – average of 27%
- Treatment completion rate – average of 68%

Congenital Syphilis cases

- Pueblo County – 9
- Colorado – 33 through September 20, 2023



Colorado and Pueblo County Influenza (Flu)

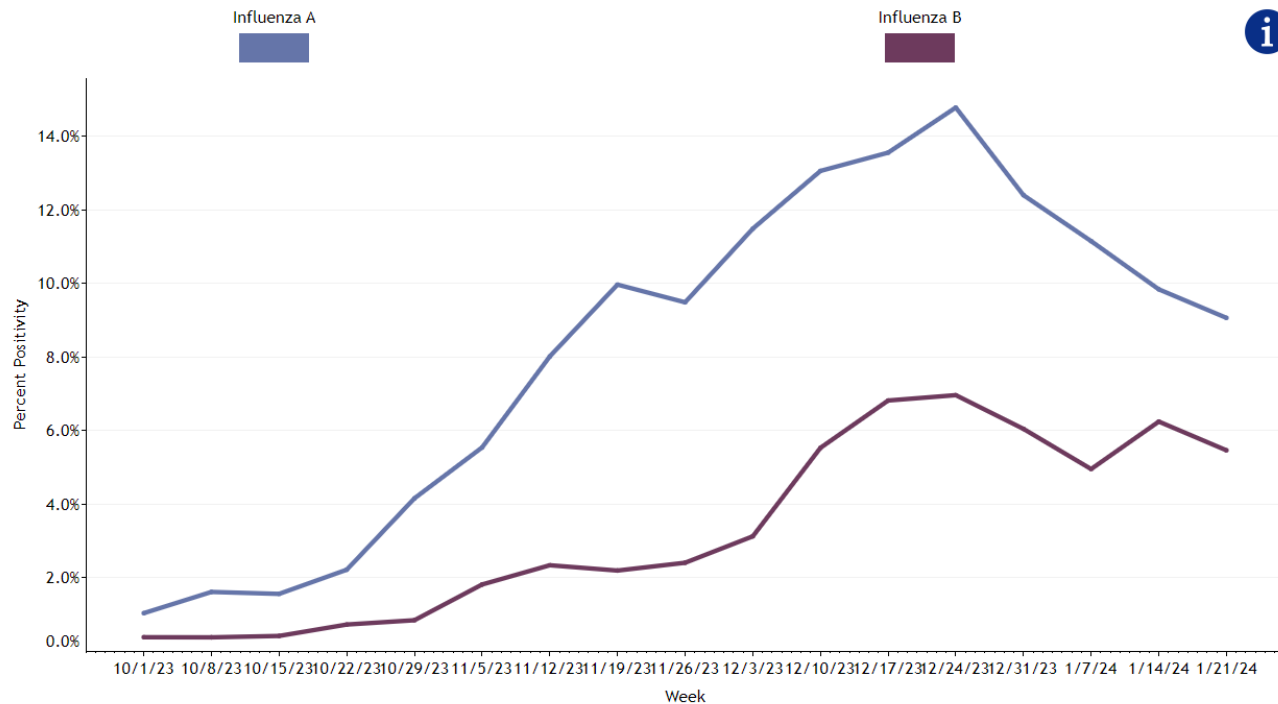
2,386
Statewide flu hospital admissions
Since 10/1/2023

Statewide influenza surveillance activities include reporting of influenza-associated **hospitalizations**, influenza-associated **pediatric deaths**, **influenza-like illness (ILI)** in outpatient clinics and emergency departments, influenza **test positivity** data submitted from sentinel hospital labs, and **outbreaks** of influenza in long-term care and correctional facilities.

To date this season, there has been **1** pediatric death and **36** outbreaks in long-term care, correctional facilities and other congregate living settings.

A(H1N1) is the predominant circulating virus.

Colorado Influenza Positivity from Sentinel Laboratories by Week



PUEBLO COUNTY 2019-2023

			Hospitalized	
Year	Week	Dates	PC	CO
2023-2024	5	Oct. 1 - Feb. 03	159	2543
2022-2023	5	Oct. 2 - Feb. 04	133	2902
2021-2022	5	Oct. 3 - Feb. 05	10	371
2020-2021	5	Sep. 27 - Feb. 06	0	23
2019-2020	5	Sep. 29 - Feb. 01	105	1735

1. Positivity data are preliminary and subject to change as more data become available. Delay for positivity reporting may increase around holidays or during periods of increased hospital utilization. As data are received each week, prior case counts and percentages are updated accordingly.

Updated on: 1/31/2024

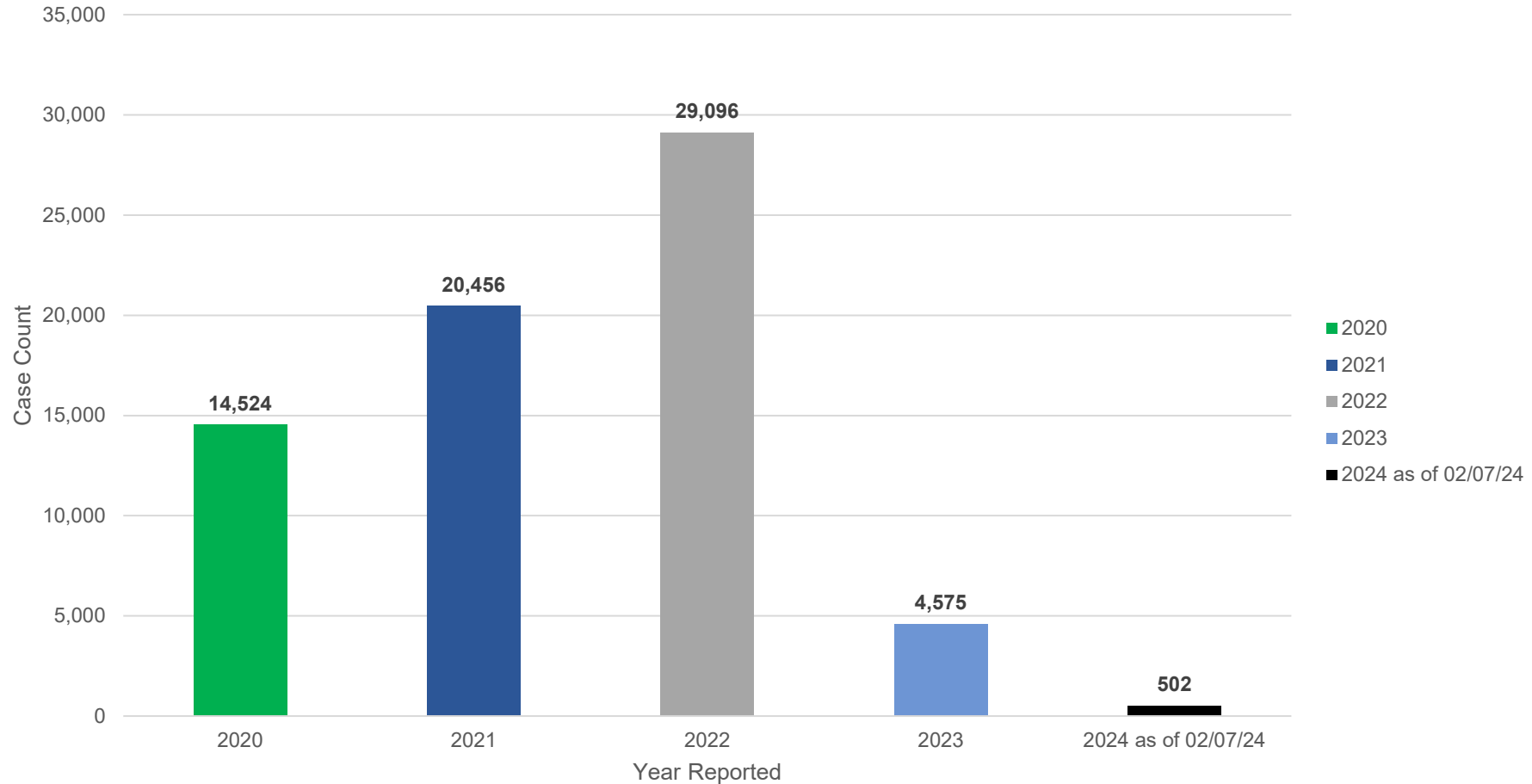
COVID-19

Case count includes all suspect, probable and confirmed cases reported to PDPHE through the Colorado Electronic Reporting System (CEDRS).

(Some entries are delayed and entered as CDPHE has capacity)

55 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during 2023.

Pueblo County COVID-19 Reported Case Count 2019-2024



Emerging Issues



Mpox

Mpox is a virus in the orthopox family of viruses, which includes smallpox. Symptoms include rash or bumps (located on the hands, feet, chest, face, mouth or near the genitals), fever, headache, exhaustion and other flu-like symptoms. Mpox can be transmitted person to person through close contact (touching the sores, bumps, or lesions). The Jynneos vaccine is available for individuals who have been exposed or are at higher risk for exposure.



PUEBLO COUNTY 2022-2023		Case Count	
Year	Dates	PC	CO
2022	Jan. 01–Dec. 31	3	406
2023	Jan. 01–Dec. 31	0	14
2024	Jan. 01–TD	0	6

The current 2024 cluster of cases have been located in the Denver area and Mesa County among the male population.

The recent outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is caused by a different lineage than the outbreak here in the U.S.

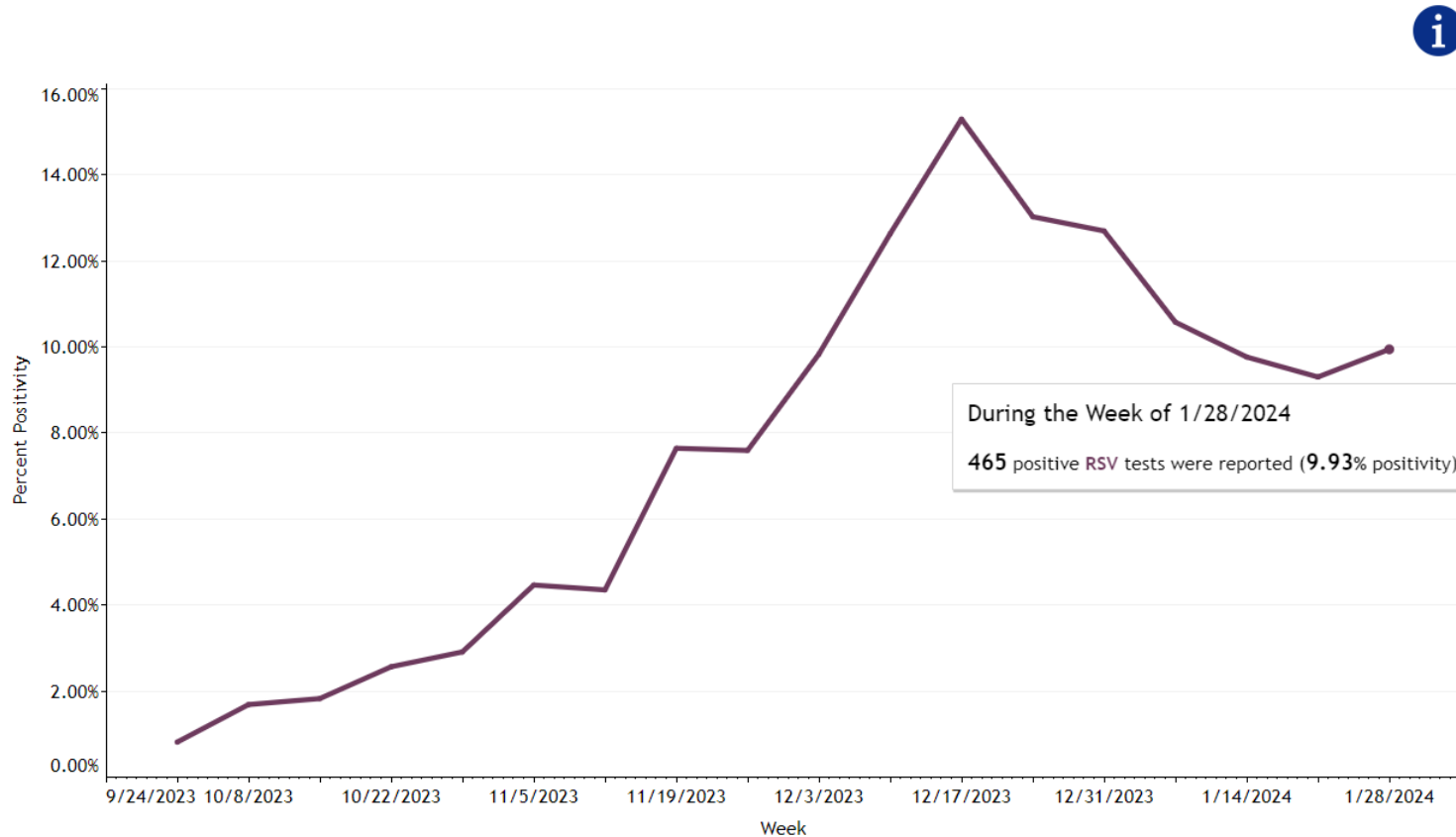
A recent Colorado Health Alert Network notification was sent out to health professional with updated information. To register to receive notifications healthcare professionals can go to [the Colorado Notification System](#) website.

RSV

Due to the increase in RSV reported cases, outbreaks and hospitalizations during 2022, CDPHE adopted RSV as a reportable in all Colorado Counties.

RSV season is Oct. 01, 2023 – Apr. 30, 2024

Colorado RSV Positivity from Sentinel Laboratories by Week



PUEBLO COUNTY 2019-2023

Hospitalized

Year	Week	Dates	PC	CO
2023-2024	5	Oct. 1 - Feb. 03	100	2488

1. Positivity data are preliminary and subject to change as more data become available. Delay for positivity reporting may increase around holidays or during periods of increased hospital utilization. As data are received each week, prior case counts and percentages are updated accordingly.

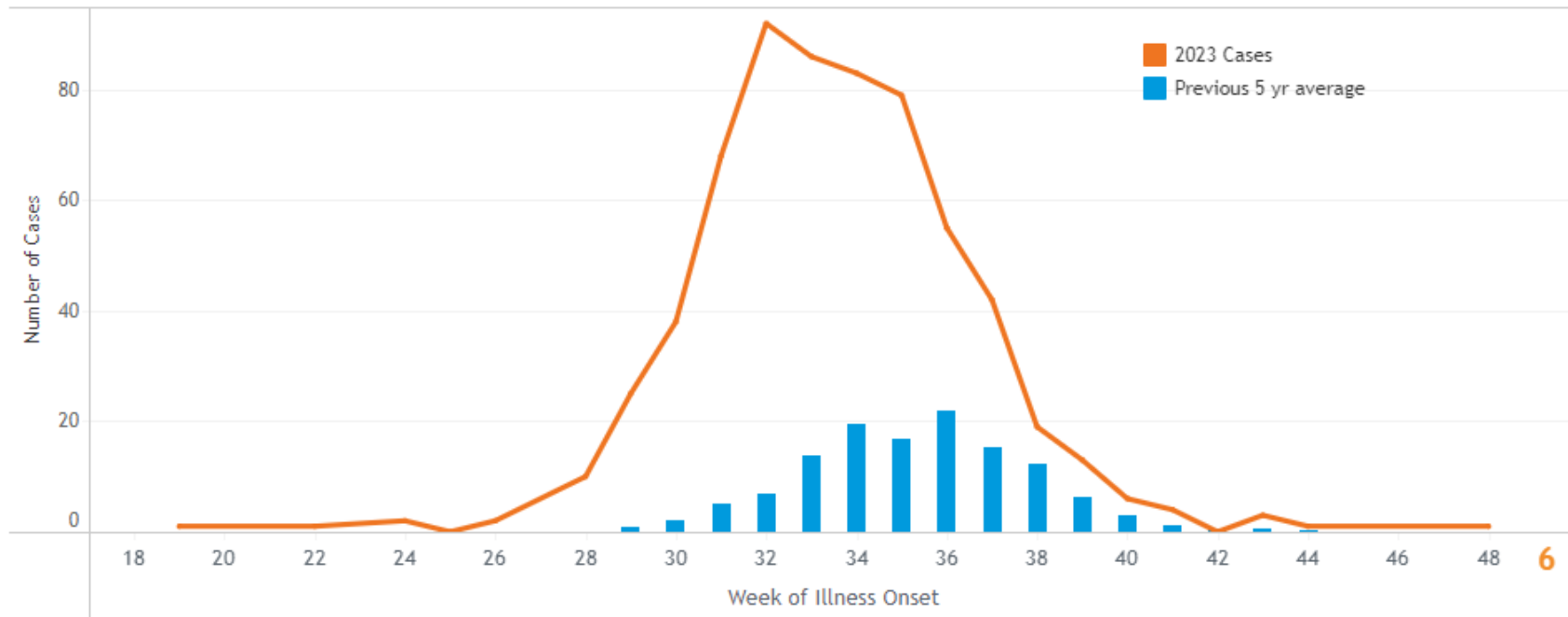
West Nile Virus

West Nile Virus became reportable in Colorado in 2003. A typical season runs from May through October. In 2003 County run fogging programs began in Colorado. In 2009 the program switched to Colorado Mosquito Control*.

This graph changes as new cases are investigated and information is entered about when symptoms started for each case. Date of illness onset is usually obtained after public health is able to investigate a case.

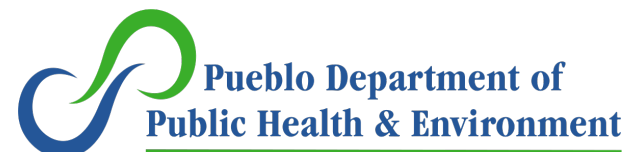
People affected: 631	Affected people who died: 50	Affected people with neurologic symptoms: 315	Affected people requiring hospitalization: 383
--------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--	---

Number of people affected by West Nile virus in Colorado, 2023



PUEBLO COUNTY

Year	Total Case Count
2003	184
2004	4
2005	5
2006	7
2007	20
2008	2
2009	2
2010	2
2011	0
2012	1
2013	5
2014	7
2015	4
2016	1
2017	2
2018	0
2019	3
2020	0
2021	2
2022	0
2023	24
2024	0



*Colorado Mosquito Control is now known as Vector Disease Control International. Samples of Culex mosquitos are collected from 5 sentinel sites in Pueblo County. Only a limited number of samples throughout the season can be sent to CDPHE for testing.

5 WNV deaths were reported during the 2023 season.

Questions



Communicable Disease (CD) Team

- CD
 - Alex Tapia
 - Julian Lucero
 - Katie Fisher, COVID-19
- CEPR Program Manager
 - Alicia Solis
- Zoo
 - Caitlin Ceasar
 - Rebecca Aguilar
 - Taylor Maez
- EH Program Manager
 - Scott Cowan
- EH Food Team works with CD during outbreaks
- EH Program Manager
 - Vicki Carlton
- TB
 - Brenda Tracy
- STI
 - Corrie Westwood
 - Claudia Perez
- CHS Program Manager
 - Christina Hopewell
- Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)/HIV
 - Denise Delgado, RN
 - Wendy Raso, NP
- CHS Program Manager
 - Justin Gage

Thank you!

Dr. Brad Roberts, MD
robertsb@pueblocounty.us