



2022

Annual Report



A Letter from the Health Officer



On behalf of the Bay County Health Department, I am pleased to share our 2022 Annual Report.

There is a never a day in Public Health where we must confront a challenging issue, whether it be a multi-year pandemic, health misinformation, or when there are still many pockets of need in the population. Nevertheless, our mission remains the same: to protect and improve the overall health and well-being of our county residents.

Bay County, like many communities in the United States, has been battered by the pandemic and challenged by changes in health status amongst shifting demographics in the population. One that is getting older, and more diverse. We have worked diligently to bring our services to everyone, from the most secure segments of the population to the most vulnerable, so that all may have an opportunity to be healthy, live well, and thrive.

As we focus more on the essential services that a public health department is to deliver, we aim to be a dynamic, flexible, and innovative department that is well-equipped to respond, prevent, promote, and effectively address health issues and threats efficiently. The extraordinary commitment of our hard-working, dedicated staff to respond to the needs of our community while providing the essential public health services is a testament to their compassion, competence, and professionalism.

Public Health is very much about partnerships. We absolutely could not do the work we do without collaboration with our medical providers, stakeholders, residents, and community-based organizations. They help us to be successful and strengthen our ability to affect lasting change in our county.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all the public health staff, managers, partners, and county leadership for their on-going commitment to improving the health of the residents of this county. This report captures the programs and activities we are responsible for, and highlights both our challenges and accomplishments. Please do not hesitate to contact us to learn more about our programs and services.

Yours in Good Health,

Joel R. Strasz, MPA
Health Officer



A Message from Bay County Administration



Bay County Mission Statement

Bay County will provide efficient, customer and taxpayer-focused, public services that improve the quality of life for Bay County residents.

2022 was a productive year with many accomplishments for Bay County. I am proud of the work that the Health Department and the Board of Commissioners have done toward securing nine million dollars of American Rescue Plan Act funds toward a new health services center, which will provide a more centralized location with critical services to address real human needs. The Bay County Health Department continues to be an innovate leader in promoting and ensuring health and provides the essential services that our residents often rely on for care. I would like to thank all the dedicated staff who worked diligently in providing critical services to our community.

Jim Barcia
Bay County Executive



Bay County Vision Statement

The vision of Bay County Government is to provide a continuously improving quality of life in our community through leadership and services.

The Board of Commissioners would like to thank the Health Department over the past year as we worked together toward the vision of a new health services center. After many hours of discussion on which uses of the APRA funds were the most impactful, we are proud of our decision to fund this new project that will have a lasting effect on our citizens. As evident from this report, the Bay County Health Department continues to deliver vital services to our residents, especially to those underserved and in need. On behalf of the Bay County Board of Commissioners, we will continue to promote the health and well-being of all who live, work, and play in Bay County.

Tom Herek, Chair
Bay County Board of Commissioners



Our Mission

To protect and promote a healthy community and safe environment by providing quality services through all stages of life

Guiding Principals

- Accountability
- Kindness
- Commitment
- Positivity
- Communication
- Professionalism
- Dependability
- Respect
- Empowerment
- Teamwork

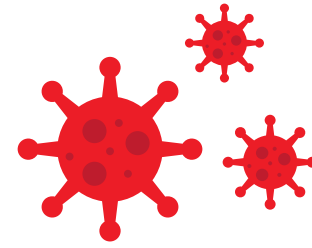
Our Vision

To be the leading public health agency meeting the needs of your community

Vision Priorities

- Create a safe, friendly, confidential, and professional environment
- Create an environment that values and respects all customers and employees
- Promote our programs and services in the community
- Partner with community organizations
- Provide responsible fiscal management
- Utilize the latest technology to reach a broader audience

COVID-19 Response

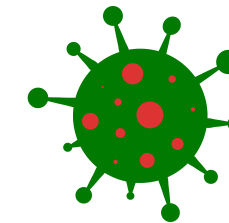


While COVID-19 case counts significantly peaked in January 2022, the next several months found the pandemic slowly receding into the background at the health department and the community at-large. Nonetheless, we continued to focus our efforts on offering vaccinations, investigating outbreaks, and pivoting staff and resources toward more of the essential services that a health department delivers.

Vaccinations & Beyond

- Distributed free test kits and masks
- Administered vaccines to eligible age groups as they were approved
- Continued to communicate updates and guidance with residents
- Published county-level COVID-19 data on our website and Facebook page
- Transitioned to walk-in and by appointment vaccination clinics
- Submitted the COVID-19 After-Action Report and Improvement Plan to MDHHS

2,116
Vaccinations



11,906
Confirmed and Probable
COVID-19 Cases

62%
Of Residents
Partially Vaccinated



131
Total Outbreaks
of COVID-19
in facilities throughout
Bay County

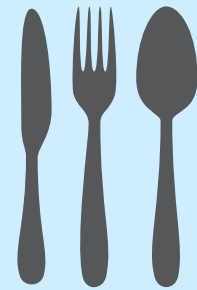
59%
Of Residents
Fully Vaccinated



Responded to
400*
Resident Inquires

**Approximation*

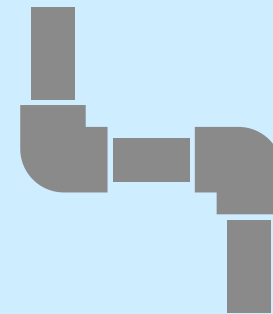
Environmental Health Programs Impact



853

Restaurant Inspections

12 Plans Received
10 Plans Approved
110 Mobile, Vending, STFU, Temporary Inspections
3 Food-Related Complaints

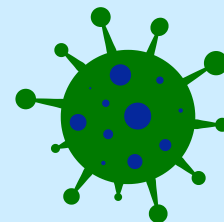


115

Wastewater Systems Evaluated

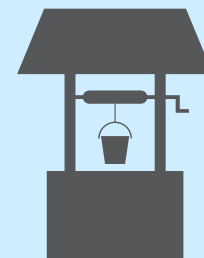
14

Abandoned Wells Plugged



10

Foodborne Illness Investigations



37

Well Permits

2



Wastewater Complaints Investigated

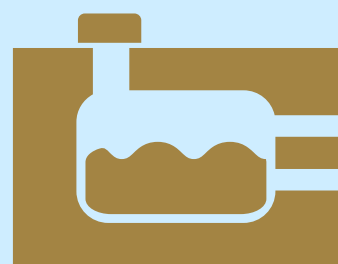
39

Field Pre-drilling Site Evaluations



73

Sewage Permits



15

Final Inspections with Well Construction

NEW
GIS SEPTIC SYSTEM MAP

Look up:
Tank Size
Drain field type
Tank age
Permit number
Install date
And much more!

<https://app.fetchgis.com/bayEHpublic>

Questions? Call: (989) 895-4006

Bay County HEALTH Department

Public Health Programs Impact

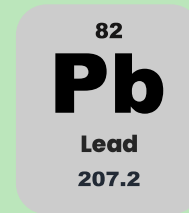
386

**Families Enrolled
in Children's
Special Health
Care Services**



1,165

**Children Under 6
Tested for Lead**



440

**Clients Receiving
Personal Health
Services**

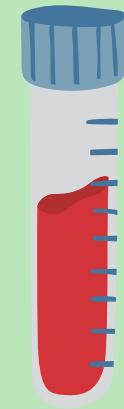
280 total encounters with
Personal Health Services' staff



9

**Home Visits for
Elevated Blood
Lead Levels**

If the capillary results is
3.5 mcg/dl or greater, a
venous (blood draw)
sample for confirmatory
testing is completed.



1,129

**Preschool (children 3-5)
Hearing & Vision Tests**



100

**New Maternal and
Infant Enrollees**

Maternal Infant Health Program
is a home visiting program,
focusing on the maternal infant
dyad to promote healthy
pregnancies.



1,862

**School Age (grades K-9)
Hearing & Vision Tests**



7 **Children Receiving Nurse
Case Management Services**

42% **Children Ages 1-2 Enrolled
in Medicaid Tested for Lead**

WIC Programs Impact



2,426

Avg. monthly WIC Clients

served who received food and nutrition education. WIC clients include pregnant women, infants, and children up to age five.

6,340

WIC Appointments

768 Registered Dietitian Appointments
180 Breastfeeding Support Appointments



\$4,775

Project Fresh

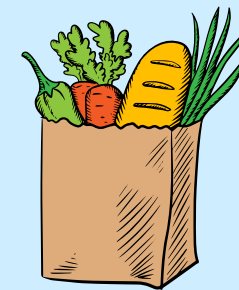
coupons redeemed at Farmers Markets



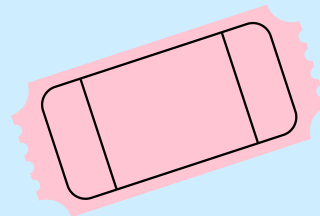
\$1,572,896

Food Dollars

spent at Bay County Grocery Stores.



107 Lead Screenings



955

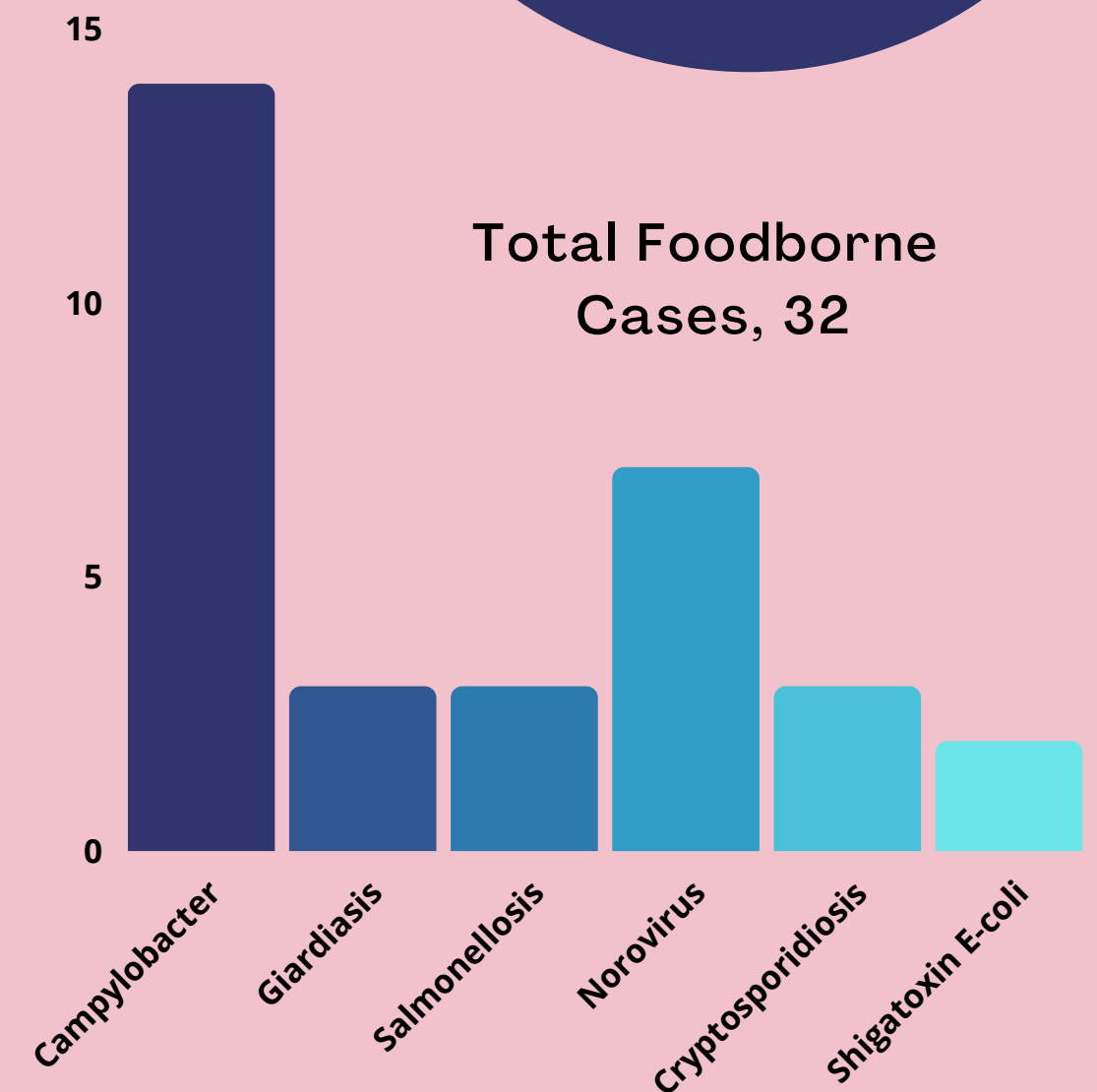
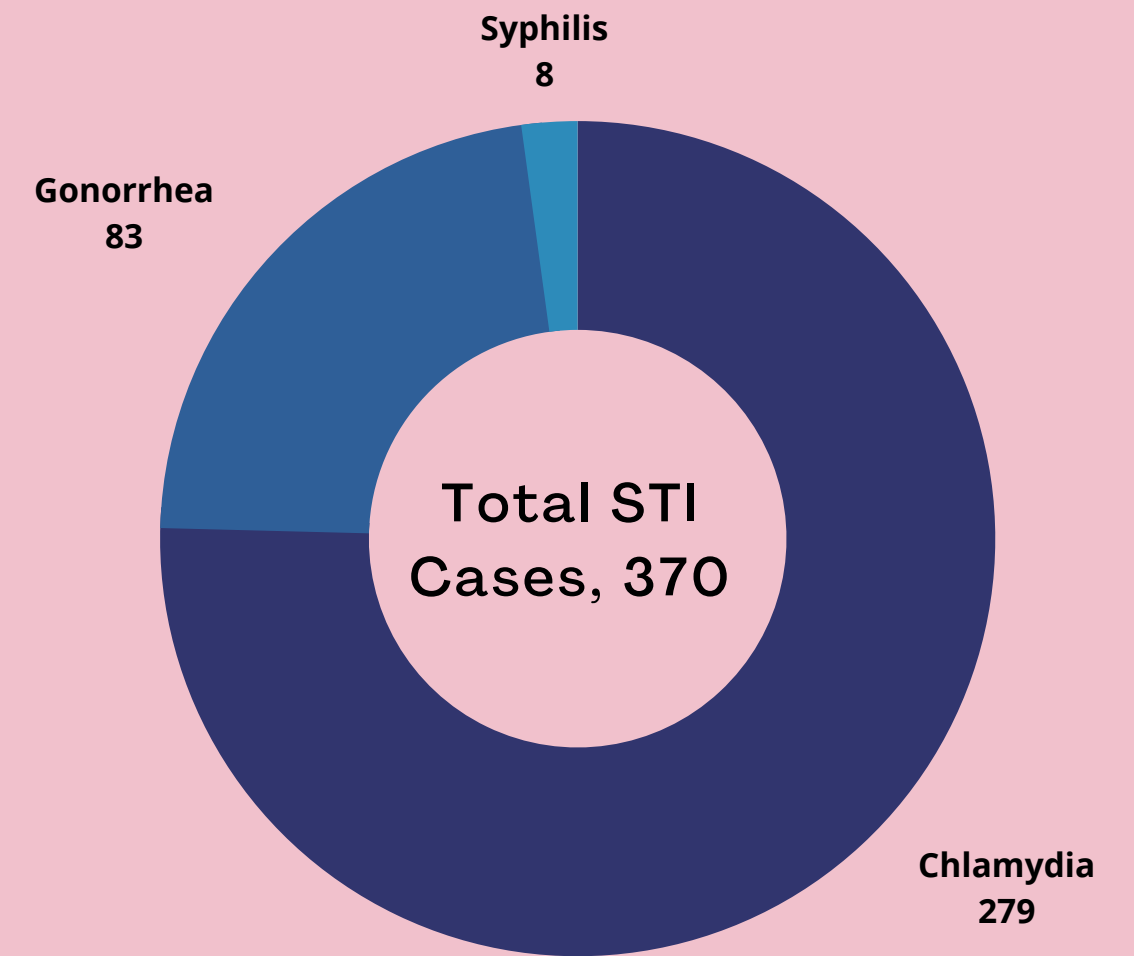
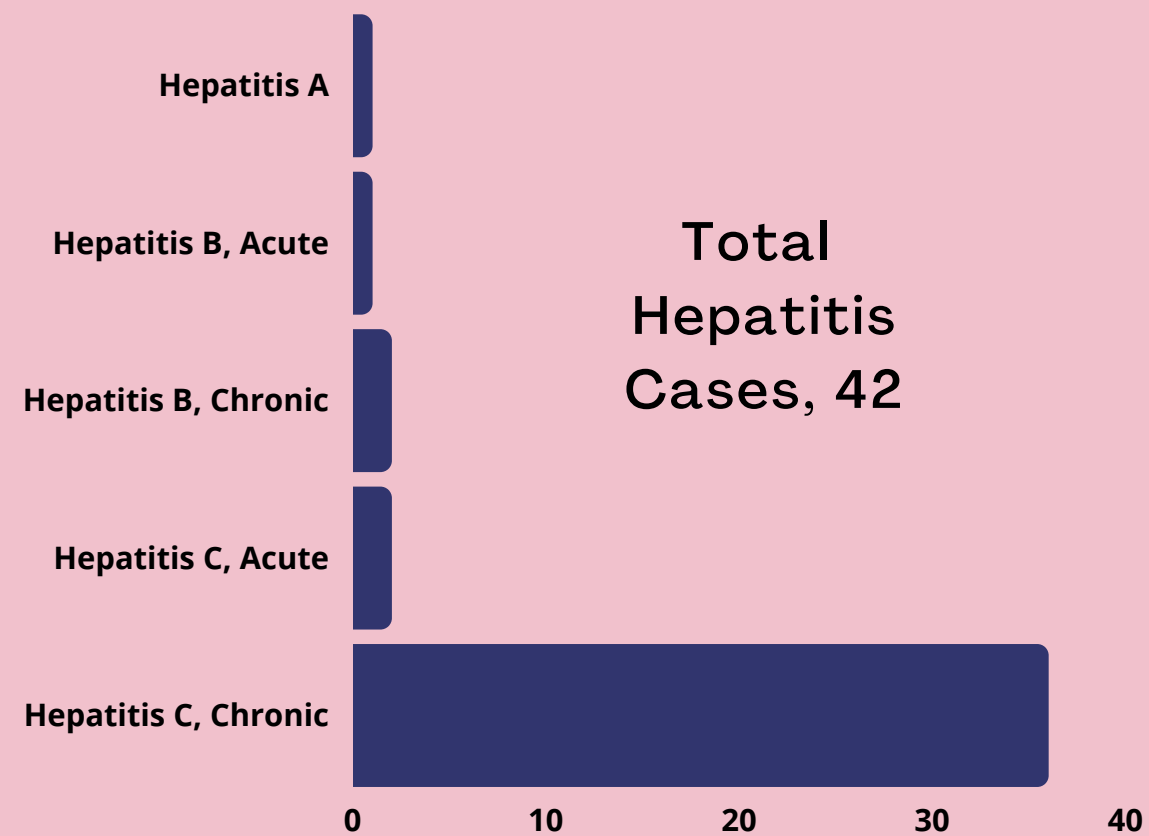
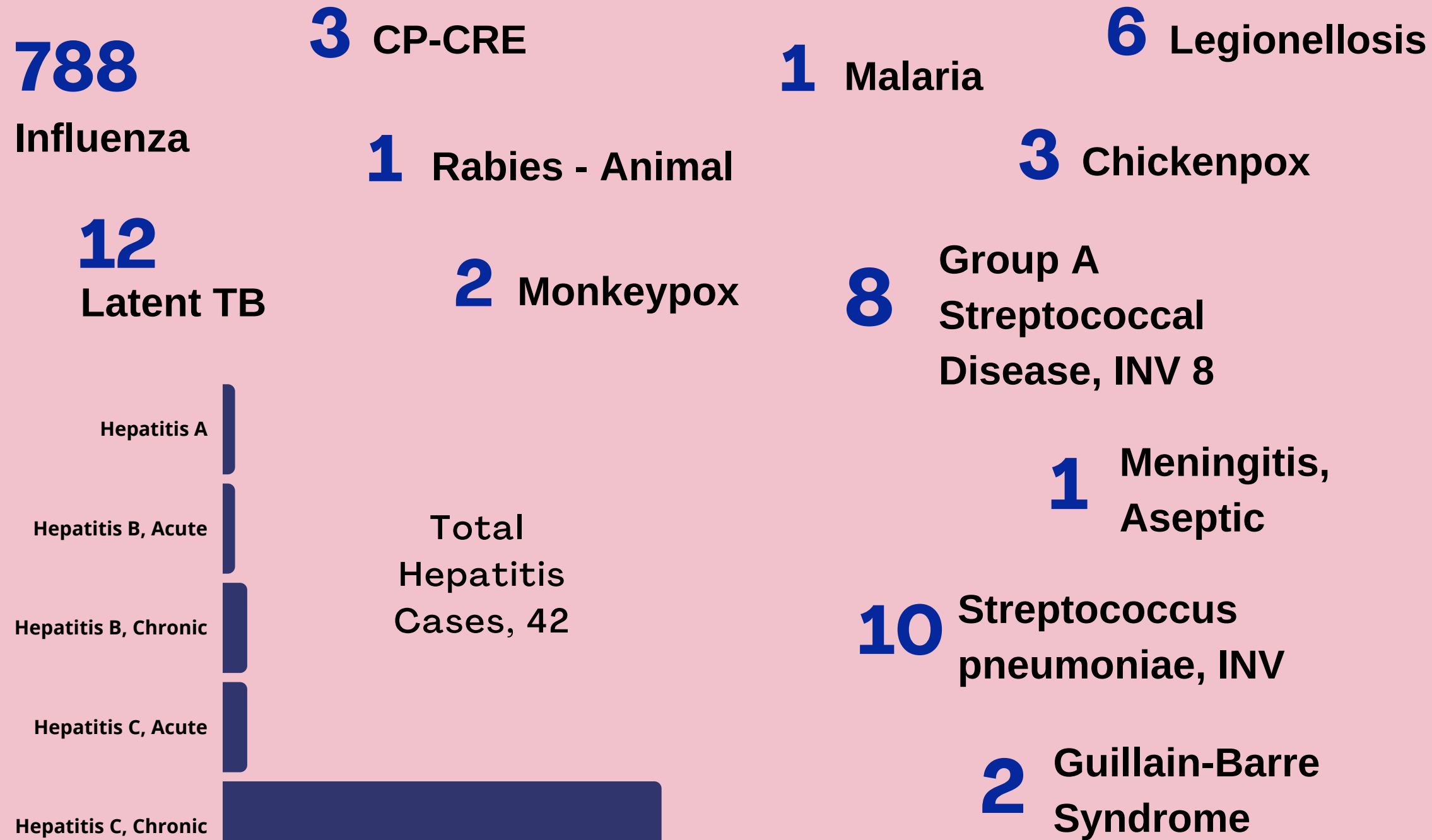
Project Fresh

coupons issued to eligible participants

Women, Infants, and Children program is a federally funded program that provides nutritious food, nutrition education and assistance with community referrals for pregnant women, infants, and children under the age of five. Eligibility is at or below 185% of poverty, which serves low-to-moderate-income families who meet income requirements. Families receive nutrition counseling, breastfeeding support and access to other support services offered (in-person and/or remotely) through the health department and local community agencies.

Public Health Clinical Disease Data

During 2022, the total number of diseases* reported was **3,562**, specific diseases are listed below:



*Does not include COVID-19

Immunizations Program Impact

During 2022, the total number of vaccines administered was **4,806**, with specific vaccines listed below:



Vaccine	Number Administered
DTaP	72
DTaP-Hep B-IPV	54
DTaP-IPV	44
Hep A (Adult & Pediatric)	207
Hep B (Adult & Pediatric)	82
Hib (PedvaxHIB)	85
Meningococcal Conjugate	207
Meningitis B	58
MMRV	78
MPOX	69
Pneumococcal Conjugate PCV13	122
Pneumococcal Conjugate PCV20	22
Pneumococcal PPSV23	11
DTap-HepB-IPV-Hib (Vaxelis)	21

Health Education Program Impact

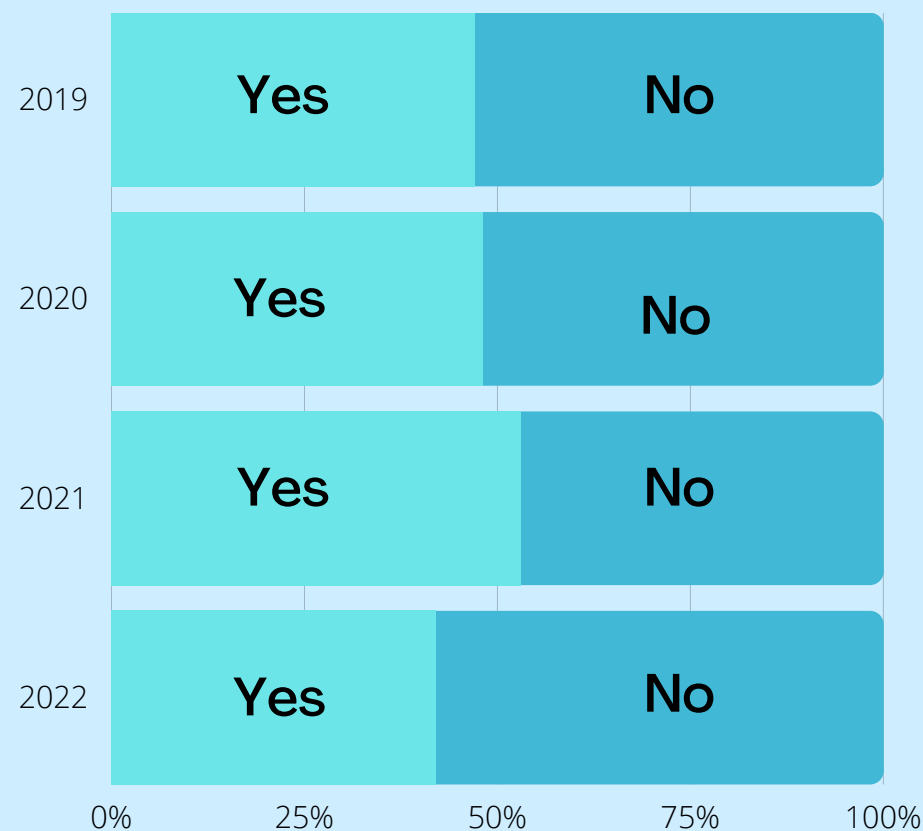
59



Community Outreach Events

25 events promoted services of the health department
34 events were specific to the Eat Safe Fish program

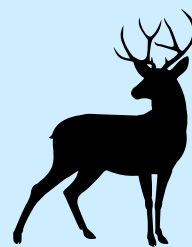
% of Anglers who either consume or do not consume fish



12,430

Eat Safe Fish

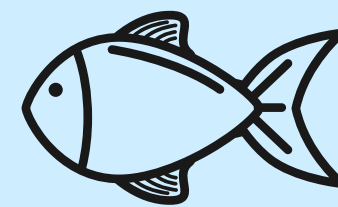
brochures distributed to businesses
+3,665 to physicians
+467 by Riverwalkers



1,600

Wild Game

brochures to businesses
+1,110 to physicians



2,831

Anglers

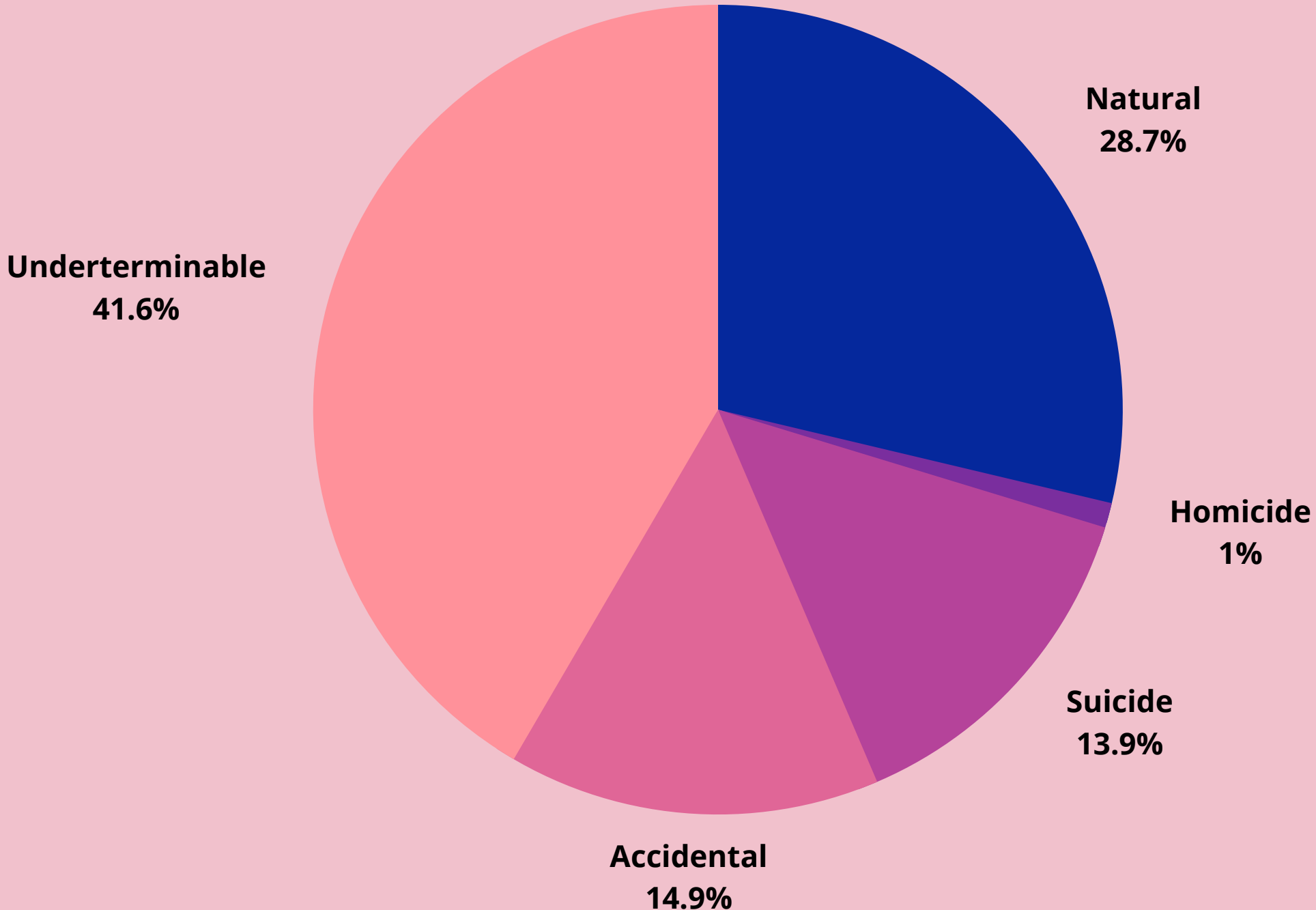
were spoken to about the Eat Safe Fish Program by a Riverwalker from May through September.

**EAT
SAFE
FISH**

Bay County Health Department partners with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Environmental Protection Agency through the Saginaw Bay Cooperative Agreement grant on the Eat Safe Fish program. The purpose of the program is to create awareness of toxic persistent chemicals in local fish from Tittabawassee River, Saginaw River, and Saginaw Bay through fish advisory education in the form of presentations, community events, and informational brochures distributed to local businesses and physicians.

Medical Examiner Summary

Manner of Deaths Investigated in Bay County, 2022

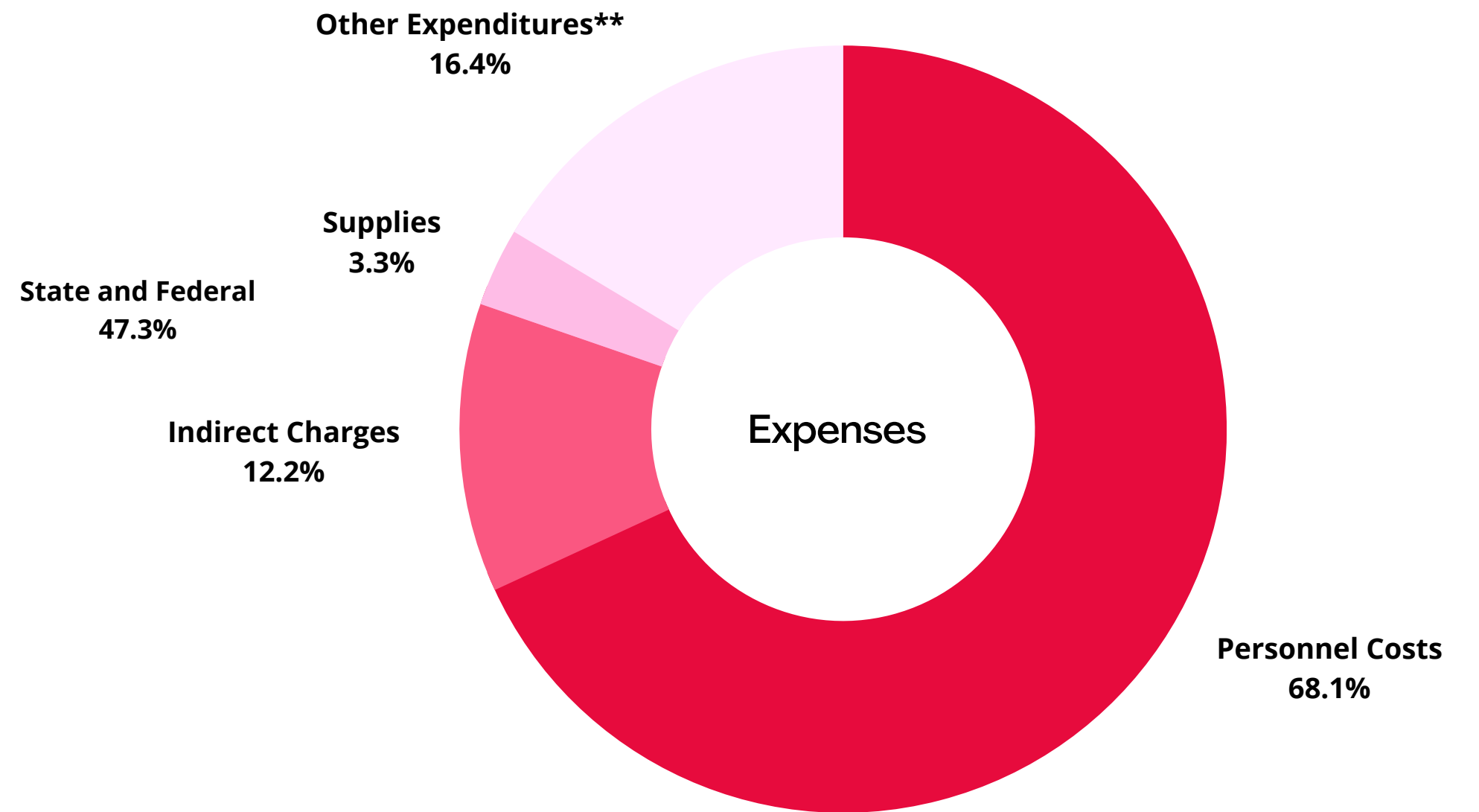
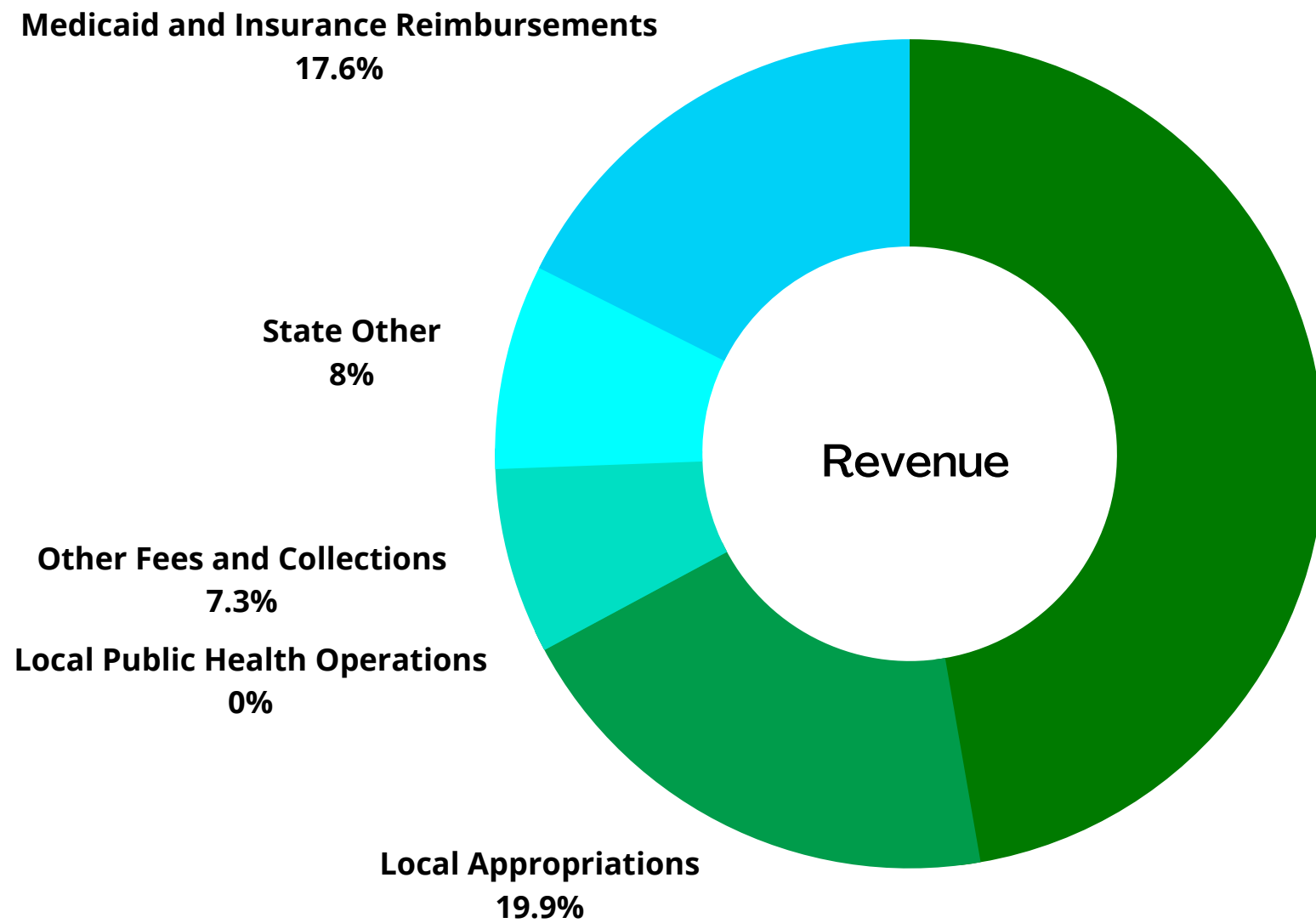


Beginning in 2022, the State of Michigan changed all overdose or drug-related deaths from being reported under accidental to undeterminable.

To access the full Medical Examiner's report, visit the BCHD website or click [here](#).

Financials

Our operating budget was \$4,987,208 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022.



**Other Expenditures include: travel, communications, and contractual

Contact & Connect With Us



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bchd@baycounty.net



baycounty-mi.gov/health/



Bay County Pinconning Clinic

415 Arthur Street
Pinconning, MI 48650
P: 989-879-3081



facebook.com/BayCountyHD/