The State of Texas
Public Health

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Texas Department of State Health Services
Presentation Summary

• Demographics and Life Expectancy Trends
• Health and Human Services and Department of State Health Services Structure
• Demographics and Health Statistics
• Programs and Activities Addressing Public Health Critical Issues
  • Chronic Disease
  • Infectious Disease
  • Maternal and Infant Health
  • Emergency Preparedness and Response
• Resources
Texas Demographics

• Over 29 million inhabitants
• 3rd highest birthrate in U.S.
• Highly diverse:
  • 2nd largest Hispanic population in U.S.
  • 3rd largest Black population in U.S.
  • 3rd largest Asian population in U.S.
  • Growing immigrant population
• 17% = Highest uninsured rate in U.S.
• 15% or 3.8 million = Largest rural population in U.S.
• 17% live below the poverty level
• Medically underserved with inequitable health conditions
• Higher obesity, diabetes mellitus, cervical cancer, rates of caesarian section delivery rates, and certain communicable diseases including tuberculosis
• Adults 18-64 with no health insurance in 2012:
  • Texas non-border counties = 28%
  • Texas border counties = 48%
• People living below poverty level in 2012:
  • Texas non-border counties = 16%
  • Texas border counties = 30%
Texas Life Expectancy Trends

Texas Average Life Expectancy by Gender

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Texas Life Expectancy Disparities

Texas Average Life Expectancy by Race/Ethnicity

- All Texans
- Non-Hispanic White
- Non-Hispanic Black
- Hispanic
Texas Leading Causes of Death in 2015

- Heart Diseases: 43,133
- Malignant Neoplasms: 39,018
- Cerebrovascular Diseases: 10,470
- Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases: 10,216
- Accidents: 9,941
- Alzheimer's Disease: 8,892
- Diabetes Mellitus: 5,503
- Septicemia: 4,370
- Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome & Neprohosis: 4,048
- Chronic Liver Disease & Cirrhosis: 3,841

Texas Health and Human Services
Texas Department of State Health Services
Texas Leading Causes of Death

Heart Disease

Cancer

Liver Disease

Accidents

Respiratory Disease

Diabetes

Septicemia

Alzheimer’s Disease

Stroke

Kidney Disease
Balancing Our Choices and Lifestyles

Health

- Education
- Access to affordable, nutritious food
- Economic Security

Chronic Disease

- Location
- Poor Nutrition
- Physical Inactivity
- Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco
The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) oversees the operation of a coordinated system which provides:

- Strategic leadership
- Administrative oversight of programs
- Client services

Includes: Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
Focus: Public and Population Health
Vision: A Healthy Texas
Mission: To improve the health, safety, and well-being of Texans through good stewardship of public resources, and a focus on core public health functions
Values:
- Lead with vision
- Be driven by science and data
- Partner with a purpose
- Fully engage and connect as a team
# DSHS Program Divisions Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Divisions</th>
<th>Functions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Health Improvement</td>
<td>Injury Prevention, Health Promotion &amp; Chronic Disease, Screening &amp; Services Coordination, Environmental Epidemiology &amp; Disease Registries, Vital Statistics, Maternal &amp; Child Health</td>
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<td>Laboratory &amp; Infectious Disease</td>
<td>Laboratory Services, Infectious Disease Prevention, TB/HIV/STD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional &amp; Local Health Operations</td>
<td>Regional &amp; Local Coordination, Emergency Preparedness &amp; Response, Texas Center for Infectious Disease, Border Health, Public Health Regions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consumer Protection</td>
<td>Compliance; Business Filing &amp; Verification; Policy, Standards &amp; Quality Assurance; Meat Safety Assurance; Surveillance; EMS/Trauma Systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public Health Regions

• Public Health Regions (PHR) provide a range of services, including:
  • Case management services for special needs children, pregnant women, and at risk children on Medicaid
  • Epidemiology - infectious and chronic diseases
  • Family health services – individual and population-based
  • HIV/STD technical support and disease intervention activities
  • Immunizations
  • Oral health prevention and surveillance
  • Public health sanitation
  • Tuberculosis case management, screening, and outbreak response
• Public Health Regions (PHR) and Headquarters:
  • PHR 1: Lubbock
  • PHR 2/3: Arlington
  • PHR 4/5 North: Tyler
  • PHR 6/5 South: Houston
  • PHR 7: Temple
  • PHR 8: San Antonio
  • PHR 9/10: El Paso
  • PHR 11: Harlingen
Statewide Public Health Coverage

• 65 Local Health Departments and Public Health Districts affiliated with DSHS
  • 94 recognized local health units/offices
  • Provide specific services:
    • Environmental and consumer protection related
    • Code enforcement
    • Food and water safety

• DSHS support for Local Health Departments and Districts:
  • Funding
  • Data and information
  • Subject matter expertise, guidance
  • Staffing, workforce support (e.g. outbreaks, etc.)
  • Resolution support
  • Health Authority training
Consumer Protection Licensed Facilities and Professionals

- Retail food establishments: ~10,000
- Food manufacturers: ~24,000
- Drug and Medical Devices: ~8,000
- Asbestos Abatement: ~7,000
- X-ray and Mammography: ~17,500
- Radioactive Materials: ~1,500
- Youth Camps: ~550
- Milk and Dairy: ~1,500
- EMS providers: ~800
- EMS staff: ~68,000
Office of Border Public Health Initiatives and Projects

- Binational and Border Coordination
  - Border infectious disease conferences
  - Regional binational meetings
- Border Data and Information Clearinghouse
- Community-based Healthy Border Initiatives: outreach, promotion, education, and training
- Border Health Best Practices & Evaluation
Chronic Disease
Preventing Obesity

• Texas children aged 2 to 4 years:
  • 15% obese
  • 16% overweight

• OLE! Texas—Outdoor Learning Environments:
  • 8,824 licensed childcare centers attended by over two million little little Texans
  • Enhance and renovate childcare centers to support physical activity, nutrition, and learning outcomes for young children
  • Associated with higher levels of physical activity, reduces sedentary behavior in preschoolers by 22%
Obesity Prevention in Rural School Districts

• School assessments determine local priorities
• Implement best practices for nutrition education and physical activity
  • School gardens
  • Changes in school environment
• Nine school districts along the Texas border
Combatting Heart Disease and Stroke

• Texas Plan to Reduce Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke:
  • Focused on reducing premature deaths from cardiovascular disease (CVD) and stroke to reduce the burden of related chronic disease risk factors
  • Evidence-based environmental and health systems strategies and strategies that link clinics to community-based resources

• Heart Disease and Stroke Program and the Texas Pharmacy Association Partnership:
  • Engage pharmacists to improve hypertension medication adherence
  • Identify individuals with hypertension and refer them to community pharmacists
  • Team-based approach to patient care
Tobacco Initiatives

• Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease and death in Texas

• Public Housing Smoke-Free Toolkit:
  • Resources for both owners and tenants to address the cessation needs of public housing tenants

• Say What! Program:
  • Students, Adults, and Youth Working Hard Against Tobacco!
  • Has reached over one million youth through statewide efforts, such as Regional Action Summit and the Annual Youth Tobacco Prevention Conference
Infectious Disease
Emerging Diseases

• Vulnerabilities:
  • Geography: Binational border, diverse geography and climate
  • Population: Travel, density, socioeconomic status

• Recent Threats:
  • Arboviral diseases
  • Ebola
  • Food borne outbreaks: Cyclospora, Brucella, Listeria, Salmonella
  • Vaccine preventable diseases: mumps and measles

• Frontline Partners: Nurses and other healthcare professionals
Arboviruses are a significant threat in Texas:
- West Nile Virus
- Dengue Virus
- Zika virus

Climate and landscape provide an environment ripe for mosquitoes

Personal and community level interventions are key to preventing disease:
- Promote integrated mosquito management
- Protect against mosquito bites
## Infants Diagnosed with Evidence of Zika Infection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Counties</th>
<th>Total Cases</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Collin(10), Dallas(27), Johnson(1), Kaufman(1), Tarrant(4)</td>
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<td>4/5N</td>
<td>Cass</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>6/5S</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Bexar(5), Maverick(1), Val Verde(1), Victoria(2)</td>
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<td>9/10</td>
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<td>Starr(1), Willacy(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
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<td>74</td>
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Cases as of August 23, 2017
Support for Families Impacted by Zika

• The Zika Referral Pilot: Connects infants with severe microcephaly/Congenital Zika Syndrome to case management services

• Pilot Results:
  • Social workers spoke with family members in 59 of the 74 cases
  • 31 of the 59 families not aware of microcephaly diagnosis or stated child is not currently experiencing any health problems
  • Received/referred to a variety of services
Zika Prevention

- Zika Health Care Services Program:
  - New curriculum focuses on preventing Zika infection and access appropriate testing
  - Employs community health worker and case manager teams in Local Health Departments along the Mexican border
  - Patient education on the Zika virus, contraception, and preventing unintended pregnancy, and preventing Zika virus infection during pregnancy
- Visit [www.TexasZika.org](http://www.TexasZika.org) for the most recent information and guidance
- Access the [Zika Testing and Clinical Management in Maternal and Infant Populations](#) Grand Rounds webinar
Fighting Antibiotic Resistance

- Texas Public Health Laboratory is a member of the CDC Antibiotic Resistance Laboratory Network (ARLN)
- Comprehensive testing capacity for CDC’s urgent and serious threats
  - Enhance outbreak detection and response
  - Create a surveillance system of resistance mechanisms
  - Produce real-time, actionable data to prevent and combat current and future AR threats
Texas Antibiotic Resistant Organism Cases

Incidence Rate of MDR-A & CRE in Texas by Residency, 2016

- MDR-A = Multidrug-resistant Acinetobacter
- CRE = Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (Klebsiella spp and E. Coli)

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Infectious Disease Control Unit.
Prepared: October, 2017
Texas Syndromic Surveillance System (TxS2)

- Statewide electronic system that collects and uses emergency department and urgent care data from participating hospitals to detect public health issues and threats
- Allows early detection of abnormal disease patterns that could result in high morbidity and mortality
- TxS2 Process:
  1. Patient goes to ER or urgent care
  2. Patient data captured in electronic health record (EHR)
  3. Data from EHR is sent to TxS2
  4. Data is analyzed and alerts are created for aberrations
  5. Data is available for local health departments and hospital staff for additional analysis
Using Texas Syndromic Surveillance System Data

- Overall use:
  - Early event detection
  - Outbreak case identification
  - Natural disaster or severe weather impact assessment
  - Exposure contact identification
  - Exposure source investigation
  - Targeted education
  - Hospital acquired infection tracking
  - National disease trend monitoring

- Hospital Use:
  - Integrated into existing ER tracking or infection control procedures
  - Show health trends affecting neighboring regions
  - Capability for analysis
  - Protect hospital/patient confidentiality
  - Population health of catchment area
  - Meaningful Use/EHR Incentive Program

http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mu/syndromic.aspx
TxS2 Data Provider Status
Immunization Program

• Prevent and control Vaccine Preventable Diseases in Texas by:
  • Providing vaccines to health care providers at no cost for eligible children and adults
  • Providing immunization education and training for health care providers and the general public
  • Coordinating surveillance and control efforts for vaccine-preventable diseases
  • Supporting the enforcement of school and child care immunization regulations
  • Supporting efforts to increase vaccinations for all Texas residents
Immunization Program Services

• 3,200+ Texas Vaccines for Children Program Providers
• 500+ Adult Safety Net Program Providers
• Provide public information, training, and outreach through:
  • Media campaigns
  • Vaccine education online training modules
  • Coordination with 50 local health departments and major healthcare partners
  • Coordination with local immunization coalitions
• Administer ImmTrac2, the Texas immunization registry, which provides access to immunization records
  • Track immunization records for all Texans who give their consent for inclusion
• Establish school immunization rules
Immunization Successes

• Preschool Children
  • Texas coverage levels increased for all vaccines except for the hepatitis B birth dose
    • Texas still exceeds the national average for the hepatitis B birth dose
  • Texas had statistically significant increases in the 4:3:1:3:3:1:4 series and rotavirus coverage levels

• Adolescents
  • Texas coverage levels increased for initiation and completion of the HPV vaccine among both female and male teens
    • Texas had a statistically significant increase in >1 dose of HPV vaccine coverage among female teens
HIV in Texas

New HIV Diagnoses, Deaths, and People Living with HIV, 1980-2016

- New Diagnoses
- Deaths among PLWH
- People Living with HIV (PLWH)
HIV Treatment as Prevention

• Pre-exposure prophylaxis (or PrEP) is when people at very high risk for HIV take medicines daily to lower their chances of getting infected

• Individuals on effective antiretroviral treatment (ART) with an undetectable viral load cannot transmit HIV to others

• Test and treat strategies:
  • Initiate ART for all people diagnosed with HIV as soon as possible after diagnosis
  • Decreases community viral load and reduce new HIV infections rate
  • Effective alongside the scale up of testing programs and ART adherence support
Tuberculosis in Texas

- 1,250 Texans had TB in 2016
- Reasons for Higher TB Rates:
  - High prevalence of diabetes
  - Mexico’s rate of TB incidence
  - Prevalence of drugs
  - Persons living in cramped, poorly ventilated spaces
  - Widespread poverty
  - Incomplete treatment
Tuberculosis Control

• Expert TB nurses at DSHS provide:
  • Clinical consultations on TB and Hansen’s diseases Education for public and private entities on TB diagnosis and case management
  • TB screening recommendations to private physician offices and high risk congregate settings
  • Facilitate expert physician medical consultations
Risk Factors Associated with TB Cases Reported in Texas in 2016

- Foreign Born: 59.1%
- Diabetes: 18.6%
- Alcohol Abuse: 15%
- Prison/Jail: 11.6%
- HIV/AIDS: 5.5%
- Homeless: 5.1%
- Healthcare Worker: 2.5%
## Border Tuberculosis Rates

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<td>277</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1250</td>
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Tuberculosis Elimination

- DSHS 1115 Waiver Project:
  - Targeted testing for latent TB infection
  - Texas Center for Infectious Disease serves is the project’s Medicaid provider
  - Goal is to prevent and treat TB cases in a 20 county area of South Texas:
    - Identify cases of latent TB infection
    - Use Interferon gamma release assays testing
    - Shorter TB treatment regimen
  - Recognized by CDC in 2016/17
TB Treatment Project Performance

IGRA = Interferon-gamma release assays
LTBI = Latent Tuberculosis Infection
Maternal and Infant Health
Maternal Mortality

Texas and the United States Maternal Mortality Rates Per 100,000 Live Births

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Maternal Death in Texas

- Leading causes of maternal death:
  - Shortly after delivery:
    - Obstetric hemorrhage
    - Hypertension/eclampsia
  - After 60 days postpartum:
    - Drug overdose
    - Suicide
- Risk factors include:
  - Pre-pregnancy obesity
  - Diabetes
  - Hypertension
  - Smoking during pregnancy
  - Accessing prenatal care late, after the first trimester
Maternal Death Prevention Opportunities and Activities

- Maternal safety bundles:
  - Instructions, checklists, and supplies for hospital staff to effectively prepare for, respond to, and prevent obstetric hemorrhage and severe hypertension
- Maternal Mortality Forum:
  - Inform professionals, develop networking workgroups, and create action plans to implement evidence-based/evidence-informed initiatives
- Healthy Texas Women Program:
  - Referrals to assess and treat postpartum depression
  - Clinical services to prevent and treat opioid use, with a focus on pregnant women and reducing the incidence of neonatal abstinence syndrome
- Address chronic disease risk factors that complicate pregnancy, including obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and smoking
- Continued collaboration between DSHS, our Task Force, HHSC, our community partners, and stakeholder organizations
Oral Health Surveillance Program

- Healthy Texas Smiles for Moms and Babies
  - Maternal oral health is important for infant health
  - Partnership to educate new and expectant mothers about the importance of oral hygiene and seeing a dentist while pregnant
  - Collaboration with the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services’ Home Visiting Program Nurse-Family Partnership
- Coming soon: *Texas Perinatal, Infant and Early Childhood Oral Health Guidelines*
Initiatives for Mothers and Babies

- Healthy Texas Babies:
  - Provides information about health topics that influence infant mortality

- Texas Collaborative for Healthy Mothers and Babies:
  - Network of stakeholders with a mission to advance health care quality and patient safety for Texas mothers and babies

- Texas Ten Step Program:
  - Educates hospital staff on the importance of breastfeeding and providing resources for breastfeeding mothers

- Texas Mother Friendly Worksite Program:
  - Helps create an environment that encourages employees to breastfeed
Infant Death Prevention Progress

Texas and the United States Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births

- **Healthy People 2020 Target**
- **United States**
- **Texas**
Texas Newborn Screening

• Over 400,000 births every year
• Every baby is screened for 53 genetic disorders, critical congenital heart disease (CCHD), and hearing loss
• Watch the YouTube video *More Than Drops On a Card* and help support our efforts
• Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (TEHDI)
Emergency Response

• DSHS plays a vital role when:
  • There is no local health department
  • The response exceeds local capacity
  • Response involves areas with no local component
• DSHS operates the State Medical Operations Center (SMOC)
  • SMOC can operate independently; or
  • SMOC can operate in coordination with the State Operations Center (SOC) operated by the Texas Division of Emergency Management
• Personnel and resources from across DSHS are utilized to respond to an emergency
• Resource for communities:
  • Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)
  • Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)
Hurricane Harvey

- $41,218,000 Estimated expenditures
- 689 DSHS staff involved in response
- 149 DSHS personnel staffed SMOC
- 990 medical response missions
- 3,200 medical patient evacuations
- 1,800 patients treated by mobilized medical units
- 142 patients transferred
- 70,000 vaccines distributed
- 6,613,716 acres treated for mosquito control
Hurricane Harvey Medical Support

• Deployed medical personnel to assist with medical evacuations and to support shelters
  • 795 Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) personnel
  • 100 EMTF ambulances
  • 13 EMTF ambuses
  • 18 Disaster Medical Assistance Teams
  • 58 air ambulances

• 3 mobile medical units to treat, stabilize, and transport individuals

• 3 medical shelters for evacuees with medical needs
EMS Trauma Systems

• Provides vital link between sudden injury or illness and emergency medical care for all Texans
• DSHS provides $127 million to trauma hospitals, EMS providers and trauma systems
• Nurses can help improve the system:
  • Get training
  • Encourage relationship building between hospitals and local EMS companies
DSHS Public Resources

Center for Health Statistics

• Collect, analyze, and disseminate Texas health information, ranging from population data and community health information to hospital reporting
• Support the development and application of consistent standards for privacy and statistical validity
• Convenient access point
• Technical assistance
• http://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/
Additional DSHS Public Resources

• Funding Information Center:
  • Help organizations pursue public health funding opportunities by disseminating funding information
  • [http://www.dshs.texas.gov/fic/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/fic/default.shtm)

• Medical and Research Library:
  • Assist members of the public who require health-related information
  • [http://www.dshs.texas.gov/library/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/library/default.shtm)

• Texas Primary Care Office (TPCO):
  • Work with health care providers and communities to improve access to care for the underserved
  • [http://www.dshs.texas.gov/chpr/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/chpr/default.shtm)
Public Health Nursing Initiative

• New Director of Nursing for Public Health Operations position:
  • Nursing Practice Improvement
    • Nursing Peer Review System
  • Clinical Policy Review
    • Blood Borne Pathogens
    • Standing Delegation Orders
  • Training
    • Texas Nursing Practice Act
    • Other relevant rules and regulations
Public Health System Partners
Thank you

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