

# Wicomico County Board of Health Update

May 21, 2024  
Wicomico County Council



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

# Agenda

- WiCHD Overview
- Demographic, Social and Economic Indicators (Census)
- Population Health Outcome Updates
  - County Health Rankings
  - Vital Statistics (Births, Deaths, Infant Mortality)
  - Respiratory Season Wrap Up
  - Cancer
  - HIV and STI
  - Behavioral Health (Mental Health/Suicide, Substance Use/Overdose)
- Community
  - Updates from LHIC/Progress on FY23 CHIP
- Internal
  - Impact of PRP Closure
  - Environmental Health



# Mission, Vision and Values

## Who We Are

**Mission:** To maximize the health and wellness of all members of the community through collaborative efforts.

## What We Strive For

**Vision:** Healthy people in healthy communities.

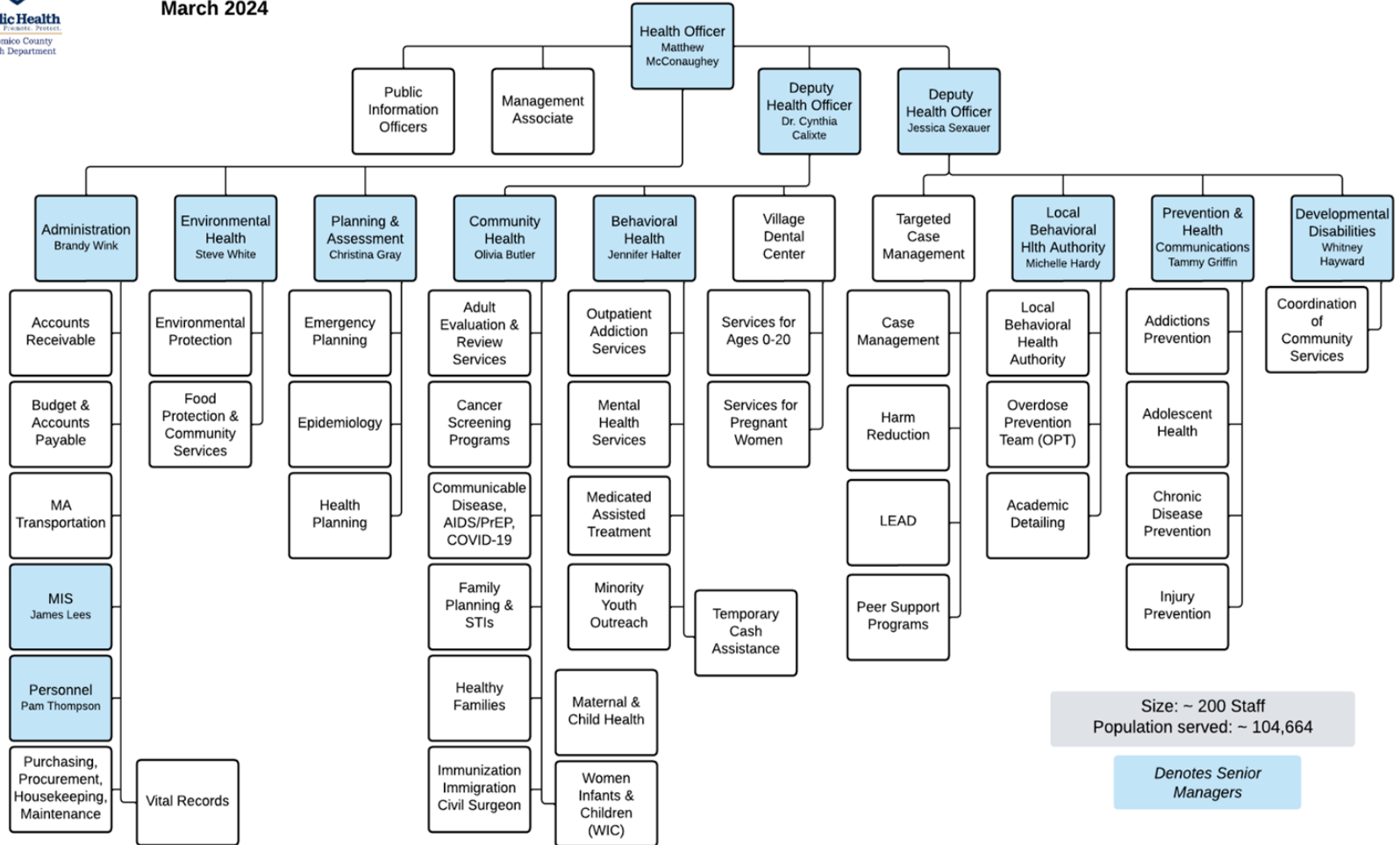
## Guiding Principles

- **Promote and Protect Health:** Striving to give everyone a safe place to live, work and play.
- **Health Equity:** Ensuring that everyone has the chance to be as healthy as possible.
- **Collaboration:** Developing and maximizing relationships to improve access and health outcomes in the community.
- **Customer Focus:** Understanding and meeting the needs of the customers we serve.
- **Making a Difference:** Making a positive impact in the lives of the people and communities that we serve.

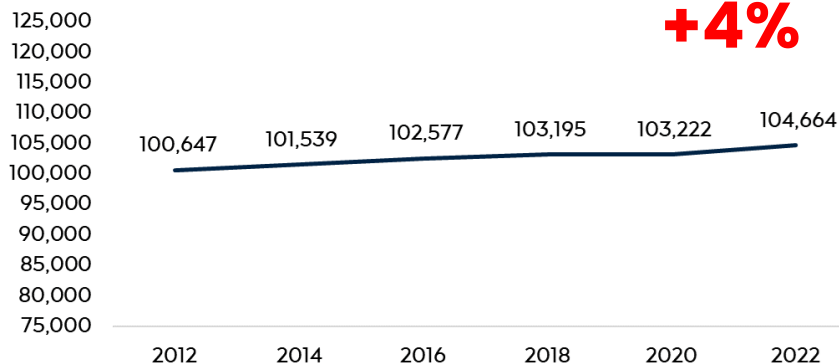


# WiCHD Organizational Chart

## March 2024



# Demographics of Wicomico County



2022	Wicomico	Maryland	U.S.
Overall	104,664	6,164,660	333,287,562
Sex			
Male	46.6%	48.7%	49.6%
Female	53.4%	51.3%	50.4%
Race/Ethnicity			
White, Non-Hispanic	59.7%	47.1%	57.7%
Black, Non-Hispanic	26.3%	29.2%	11.9%
Hispanic	6.0%	11.4%	19.1%
Asian, Non-Hispanic	2.4%	6.5%	5.8%
Age Group			
Under 18 Years	22.5%	21.8%	21.7%
18 Years and Older	77.5%	78.2%	78.3%
65 Years and Older	16.7%	16.9%	17.3%
Median Age (Years)	37.3	39.7	39.0

# Key Economic Indicators



## \$21.81

Hourly Wage to Afford  
Modest 2-Bedroom Housing

\*Severe housing problems are defined as households with one or more factors: Lack of complete kitchen facilities, lack of complete plumbing facilities, overcrowding and/or severe cost burden.

2022	Wlcomlco	Maryland	U.S.
Income, Benefits and Employment			
Median Household Income	\$72,198	\$94,991	\$74,755
SNAP/Food Stamps	18.0%	12.0%	12.4%
Social Security Income	31.0%	28.7%	31.1%
Unemployed (Feb. 2024)	3.6%	2.9%	2.9%
Poverty			
Individuals in Poverty	10.6%	9.6%	12.6%
Families in Poverty	5.4%	6.6%	8.9%
Housing			
Owner-Occupied	61.9%	67.7%	65.2%
Renter-Occupied	38.1%	32.3%	34.8%
Rent 35%+ of income	37.1%	42.3%	42.7%
Severe Housing Problems*	17%	15%	17%

# Key Social Indicators

2022	Wlcomlco	Maryland	U.S.
Education			
High School Graduation Rate (2023)	85.6%	85.8%	87.0%
High School Diploma or Higher	91.4%	91.4%	89.6%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	31.6%	43.8%	35.7%
Other Social Factors			
With a Disability	11.4%	11.9%	13.4%
Non-English Language Spoken at Home	12.3%	20.7%	22.0%
Foreign-Born	7.5%	16.7%	13.9%
Veteran Status	5.9%	6.8%	6.2%
Without a Vehicle	3.6%	8.7%	8.3%

# County Health Rankings



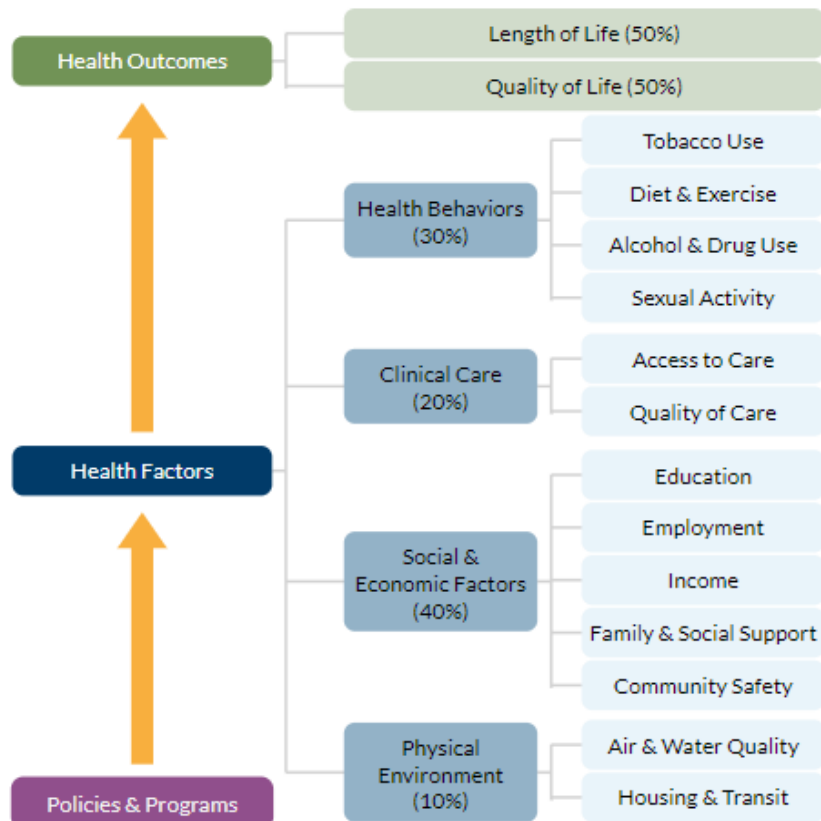
## County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

### Doing Well:

- Uninsured residents
- Healthcare provider ratios

### Areas for Improvement:

- Obesity
- Physical Inactivity
- Tobacco Use

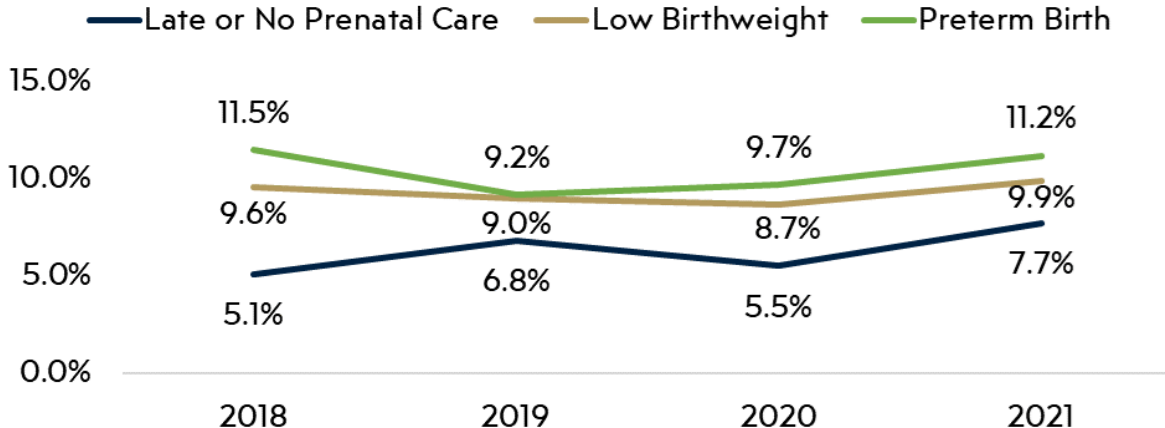




# Vital Statistics: Births

Over the last three years, there were an average of **1,262 births to Wicomico County mothers.**

## Selected Birth Outcomes, Wicomico County, 2018-2021

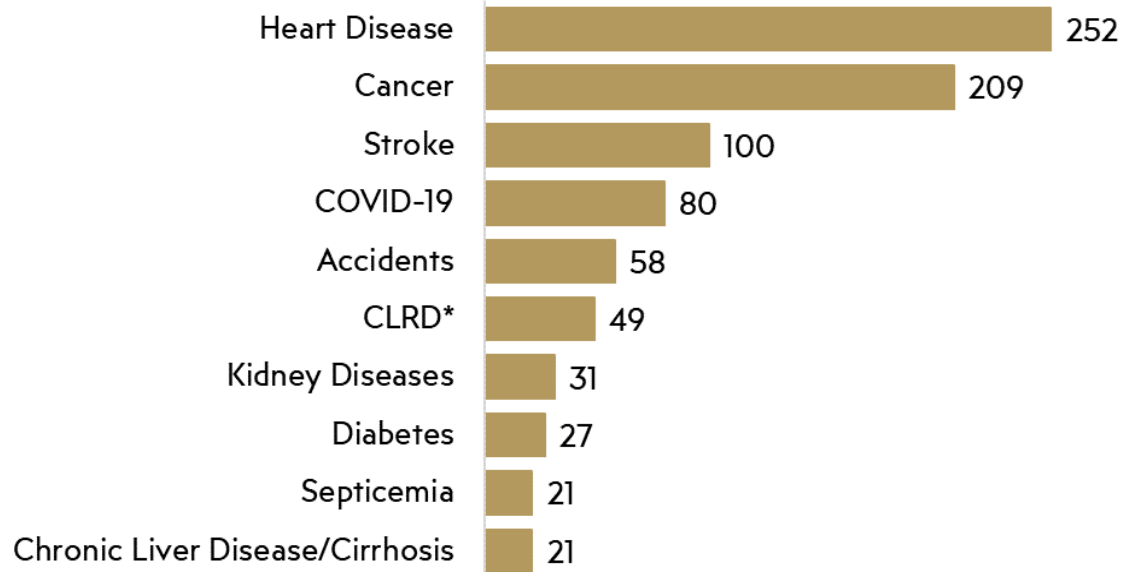


# Vital Statistics: Deaths

In 2022, there were **1,092 deaths** among Wicomico County residents.

**Heart disease and cancer** remained the leading causes of death.

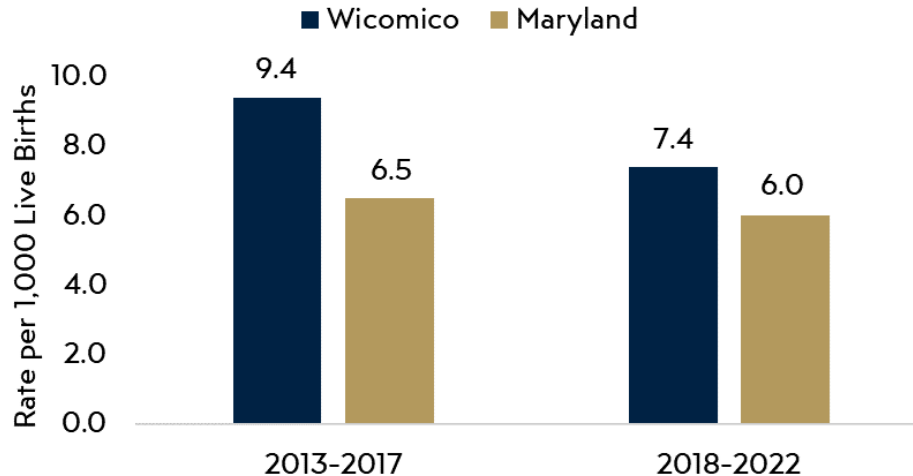
## Leading Causes of Death, Wicomico County, 2022



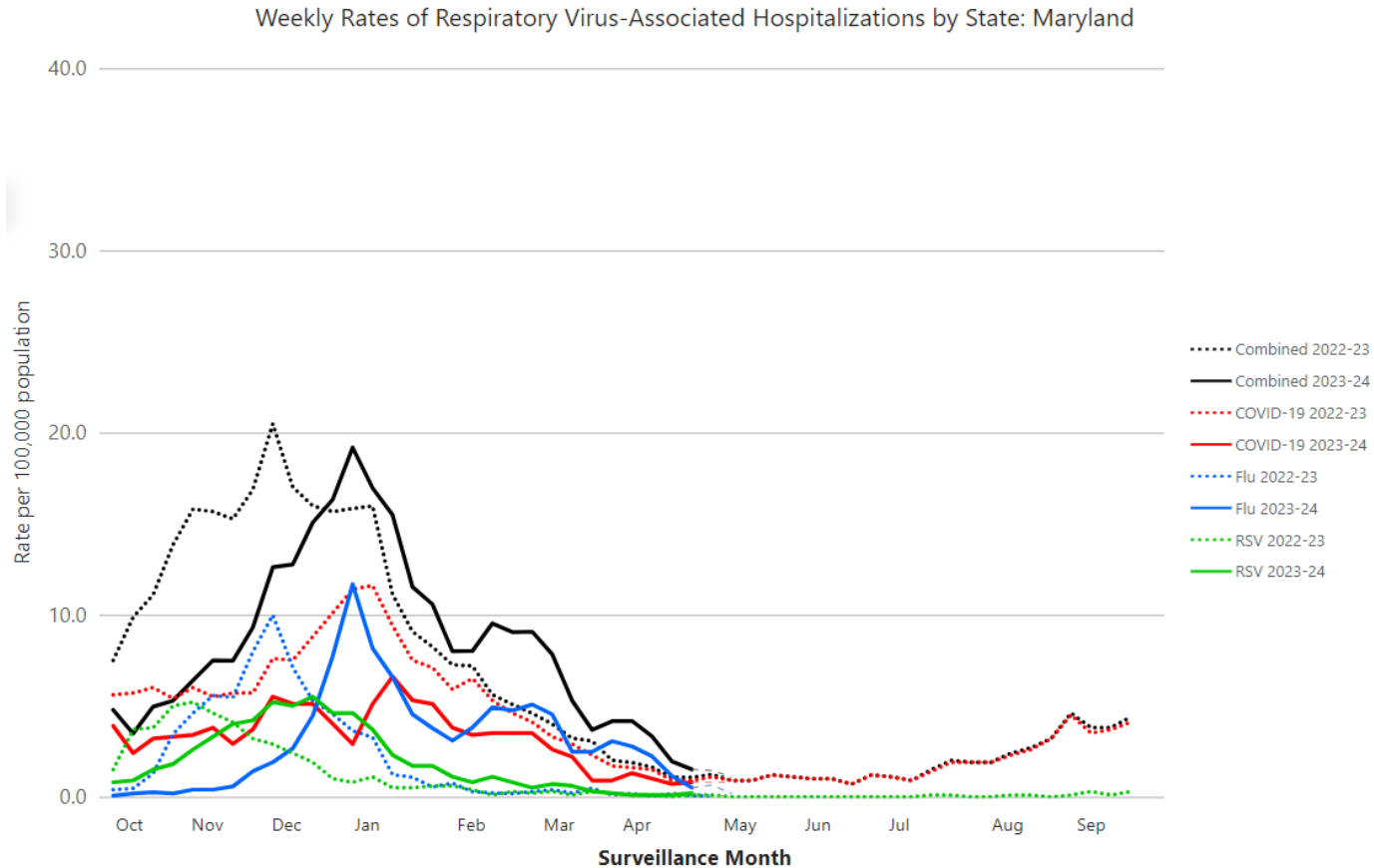
# Vital Statistics: Infant Mortality

Wicomico County	2020	2021	2022
Infant Deaths (Count)	14	11	5

**Infant Mortality Rate,  
Wicomico County and Maryland, 2013–2022**



# Respiratory Season Wrap Up




































# Cancer



## Cancer Cases and Deaths, Wicomico County, 2020

*\*\* Fewer than 16 cases = data suppressed.*

2020 Cancer Incidence Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000	Wicomico	5-Year Trend	Maryland	5-Year Trend
All Sites	511.1		449.7	
Breast (Female)	131.0		133.2	
Cervical	8.6		6.6	
Colorectal	38.3		35.2	
Lung and Bronchus	76.7		51.8	
Melanoma	29.5		24.5	
Ovarian	12.1		10.3	
Pancreatic	13.8		13.7	
Prostate	141.7		135.7	

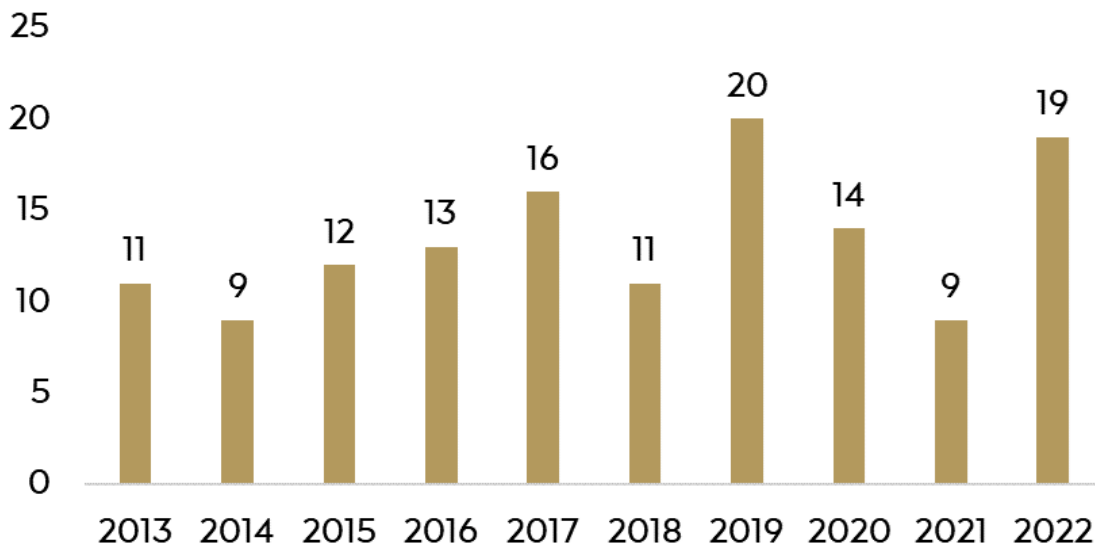
2020 Cancer Mortality Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000	Wicomico	5-Year Trend	Maryland	5-Year Trend
All Sites	186.6		148.9	
Breast (Female)	21.6		21.0	
Cervical	**	**	2.0	
Colorectal	17.1		13.2	
Lung and Bronchus	49.9		33.5	
Melanoma	**	**	1.8	
Ovarian	7.2	**	6.3	
Pancreatic	11.0		11.3	
Prostate	28.8		20.1	

# HIV

In 2022, there were **19 cases of HIV diagnosed** in Wicomico County, and a total of **287 residents living with HIV**.

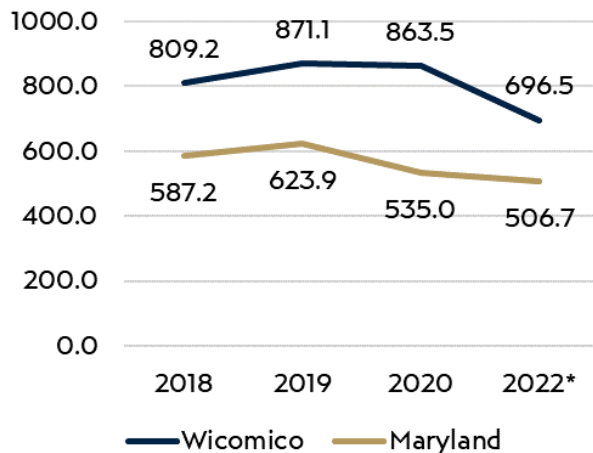
**Two-thirds** of residents living with HIV **are male**, and **over half are over the age of 50**.

**New HIV Diagnoses, Wicomico County, 2013–2022**

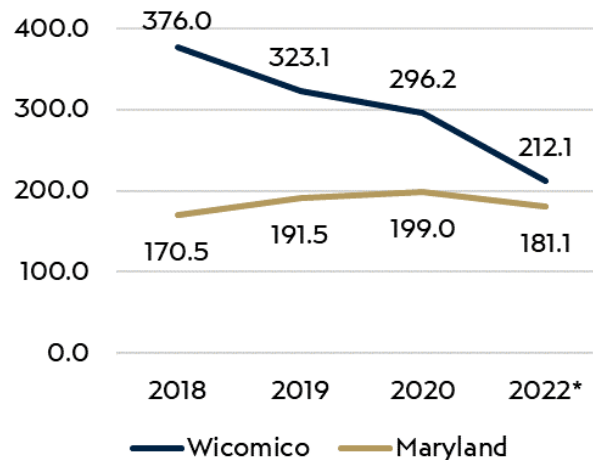


## STI Incidence Rates per 100,000, Wicomico County, 2018-2022

### Chlamydia



### Gonorrhea



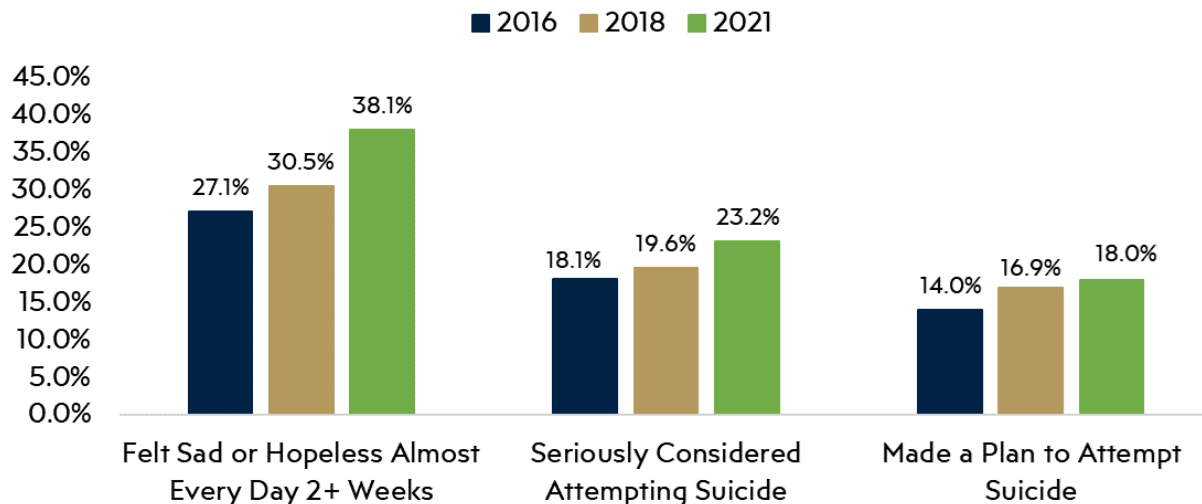
# Behavioral Health: Mental Health and Suicide

**In 2023, among  
Wicomico County  
residents:**

**Roughly half of ER  
visits for self-harm were  
youth 10-24 Years**

**50%**

## Self-Harm Risk Factors, Wicomico County High Schools, 2016–2021

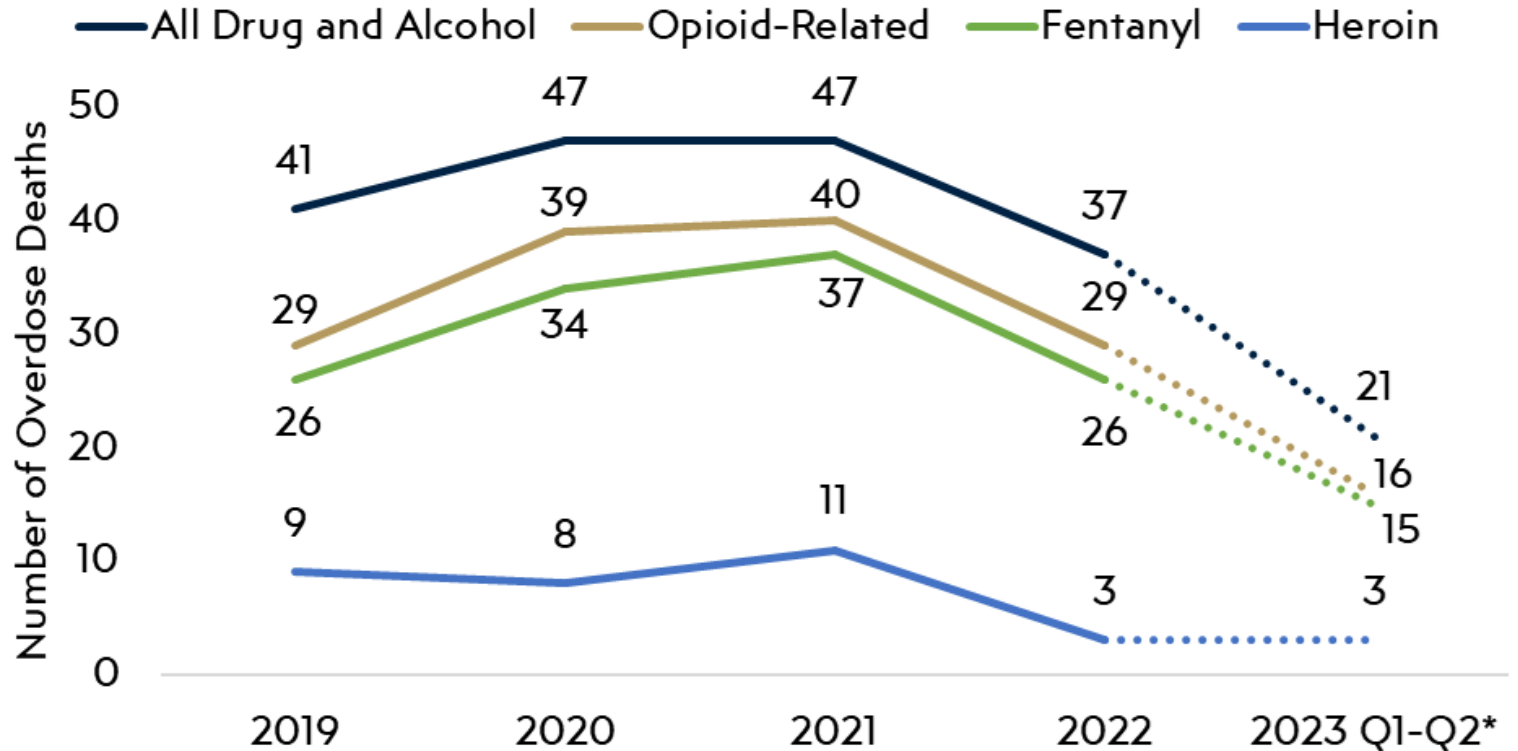




# Behavioral Health: Substance Use and Overdose

## Overdose Deaths by Drug Type, Wicomico County, 2019-2023\*

\*2023 data is 1/1/2023-6/30/2023



# FY 23–25 Community Health Improvement Plan



**Access  
and Health  
Equity**



**Behavioral  
Health**



**Chronic  
Disease and  
Wellness**



**Public Health**  
*Prevent. Promote. Protect.*  
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# FY 23–25 Community Health Improvement Plan



## Goals:

1. Increase equitable access to healthcare
2. Provide education and promote awareness of health equity, including policy recommendations

## Recent Work in Priority Area:

- Baseline survey of Community Health Workers
- Wicomico LHIC established a subcommittee for health equity and health access



# FY 23–25 Community Health Improvement Plan



## Goals:

1. Improve behavioral health through prevention, treatment and recovery

## Recent Work in Priority Area:

- More trainings in Mental Health First Aid
- Increases in Narcan trainings among those with social experience
- Academic detailing to prescribers
- Baseline survey of LEP services among LBHA providers



# FY 23–25 Community Health Improvement Plan



## Goal:

1. Reduce the prevalence and mortality rates of chronic disease in the service area
2. Promote and support healthy lifestyles and wellness in the service area to reduce the risk of chronic disease

## Recent Work in Priority Area:

- Increased number of diabetes prevention program (DPP) cohorts, including Spanish
- Met colorectal screening goals for FY 24 – wait list already for FY 25
- Expansion of community gardens throughout the county
- Ongoing Healthy Lifestyles Challenge



# Internal WiCHD Updates



# Status of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program Closure

- Program closed at the Wicomico County Health Department effective March 19, 2024.
- Four (4) staff were able to retain employment with the Wicomico County Health Department by being reassigned to other projects.
- All clients were provided notice of closure along with a choice of providers to continue services:
  - 39 clients were provided contact information for PRP service providers.
  - 13 PRP Providers in the area:
    - 9 serve children, adolescents, and adults.
    - 1 serves adults only.
    - 3 serve children and adolescents only.
- All clients desiring continued services were provided a warm handoff referral to another provider to continue PRP services within the referral.
- Wicomico County Health Department continues to have staff available to transfer appropriate medical records for anyone requesting services after program closure.



# Environmental Health: Septic Applications

Current Septic Applications <i>Rec'd After 1/17/2023</i>	Current Applications	Closed Applications	Open Applications	Added Since Last Report (4/10/24)	Completed in FY 2024 (To Date)
Overall	249	138 (52.5%)	111 (47.5%)	16	101
Change From Prev. Mth	16	13	3		
Replacement	169 (67.9%)	70 (50.7%)	99 (89.2%)	10 (62.5%)	49 (48.5%)
New Construction	65 (26.1%)	53 (38.4%)	12 (10.8%)	4 (25.0%)	43 (42.6%)
Tank Only	15 (6.0%)	15 (10.9%)	0 (0.9%)	2 (12.5%)	9 (8.9%)
<b>Application Received (Calendar Year)</b>					
2023	164 (65.9%)	112 (81.2%)	52 (52.8%)		75 (74.3%)
2024	85 (34.1%)	26 (18.8%)	59 (47.2%)		26 (25.7%)
<b>Average Business Days (excl. weekends and holidays)</b>					
From App. Received to Completion		49.6 days			
From App. Received to 5/8/2024			123.8 days		

- 101 septic applications completed in FY 2024





# Environmental Health: Land Evaluations

As of 5/8/2024	All Applications	Closed Applications	Open Initial Site Visit Completed	Open Initial Site Visit Not Completed	Completed in FY 2024 (To Date)
Overall	173	105	14	54	92
Change From Prev. Mth	2	17	0	(15)	17
Application Received (Calendar Year)					
2019					2 (2.2%)
2020					5 (5.4%)
2021	29 (16.8%)	21 (20.0%)	6 (42.9%)	2 (3.7%)	14 (15.2%)
2022	51 (29.5%)	36 (34.3%)	2 (14.3%)	13 (24.1%)	28 (30.4%)
2023	67 (38.7%)	46 (43.8%)	5 (35.7%)	16 (29.6%)	41 (44.6%)
2024	26 (15.0%)	2 (1.9%)	1 (7.1%)	23 (42.6%)	2 (2.2%)

- 92 Land Evaluations completed in FY 2024
- No outstanding LE's from 2019-2020, working on closing 2021



# Thank You!

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**Jessica Sexauer, LMSW**

Deputy Health Officer

**Christina Gray, MS**

Director, Division of Planning and Assessment



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