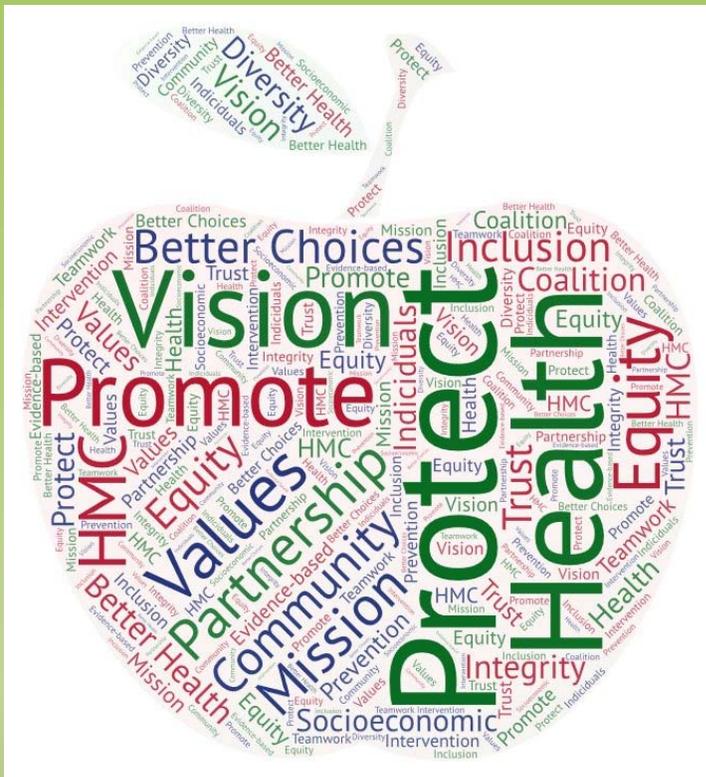


MANITOWOC COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



2019



Manitowoc County Health Department

Mission: To Protect and Promote the Health of Manitowoc County in Partnership with our Community

Mary Halada, Health Officer

Environmental Health • Public Health Nursing • W.I.C. Program

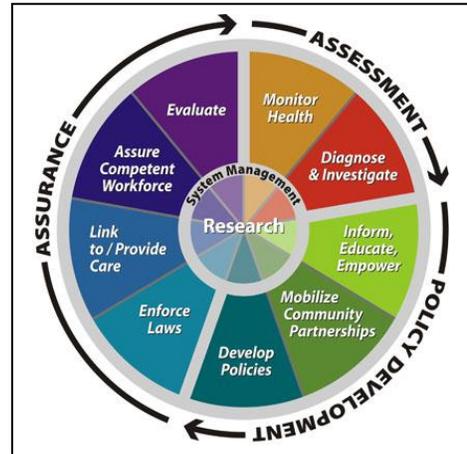
Manitowoc County Health Department • 1028 S 9th St • Manitowoc WI 54220

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Email: healthdepartment@co.manitowoc.wi.us

2019 Annual Report

The Manitowoc County Health Department Annual Report provides a snapshot of the Health Status of our community and the work we do to improve the overall health of Manitowoc County. Our work is done in partnership with individuals, families, organizations, and the public focusing on all factors that affect health: Health Behaviors, Social and Economic factors, Clinical Care and Physical Environment. The Core Functions of Public Health and the Ten Essential Public Health Services provide structure to our mission.



Manitowoc County is well served by the Health Department employees who work every day to Protect and Promote the Health of our residents. Communicable disease control is the primary responsibility of the health department. The most prevalent diseases reported were Chlamydia, Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations, Chronic Hepatitis C and Gonorrhea. COVID – 19 is a novel disease that started in December of 2019 in China and will likely impact the U.S. and Wisconsin in the coming year.

The WI Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection conducted an annual evaluation of the environmental retail food establishment program. The goal of the program is to protect the public health and safety through inspection and licensing of retail food establishments, campgrounds, recreational and educational camps, swimming pools, hotels, motels, bed and breakfast establishments and tourist rooming houses.

The environmental staff worked hard to educate parents on how to reduce lead hazards in their homes. The health department identified one child an elevated blood level over 20 µg/dL which resulted in a state mandated lead inspection and corrective action.

Lastly, thank you to our partners in both the private and public sector who support the work we do. The 6 Healthiest Manitowoc County Coalitions spent the year finalizing their plans and developed implementation strategies to work on. Each coalition has a PHN and a community member as leaders in this process. The goal is to collectively impact and improve the health of all.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Halada, RN, BSN
Health Officer

COUNTY of MANITOWOC

Robert F. Ziegelbauer
County Executive

Jim Brey
Chairperson of the County Board

BOARD OF HEALTH

Rita Metzger, Chairperson

Kayla Drumm	Shirley Fessler, R.N.
Dr. Brian Konowalchuk	Nicholas Muench
Dr. Todd A. Nelson	Dave Nickels
Randy Vogel	Shannon Wanek

HEALTH OFFICER

Mary Halada, R.N., B.S.N.

ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

Jessica Wanserski, R.S., M.S., Environmental Health Manager	
Sarah Chase, R.S., B.S.	Diane Mittnacht, L.P.N.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING DIVISION

Ellen Christel, R.N., B.S.N.	*Nancy Cohen, R.N., B.S.N.
Lydia Pomeroy, R.N., B.S.N.	Pang Lee, R.N., B.S.N.
Carrie Redo, R.N., B.S.N.	Julie Reimer, R.N., B.S.N.
Lexi Otis, Health Educator	

W.I.C. DIVISION

Paulette Mach, R.D., C.D. WIC Program Director
Theresa Reimer, B.S.
Terri Riemer-Ubersox, IBCLC, B.S.
Juli Novak, R.N., B.S.N., M.S.
Shaunda Stuart, WIC Administrative Assistant

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

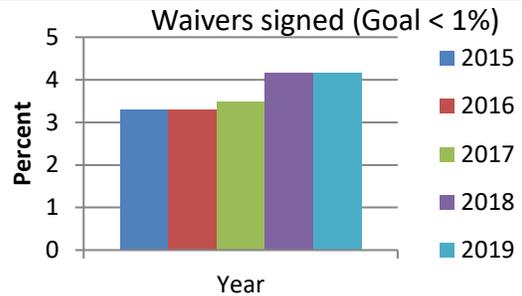
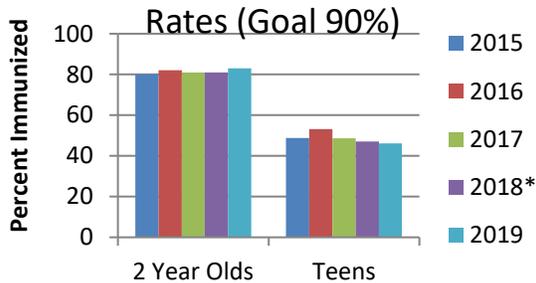
Sue Boeckman, Administrative Assistant
Yer Kue, Bi-lingual Health Aide
Norma Medrano, Bi-lingual Health Aide
Luarmarie Rosado Rivera, Bi-lingual Health Aide

**retired in 2019*

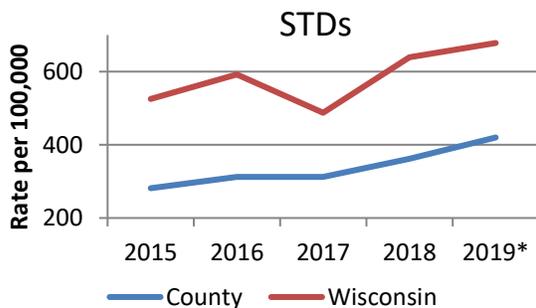
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Statutorily required program to prevent, suppress and control the spread of communicable disease through immunizations, reporting, contact follow up, and assurance of appropriate treatment and community interventions through department surveillance.

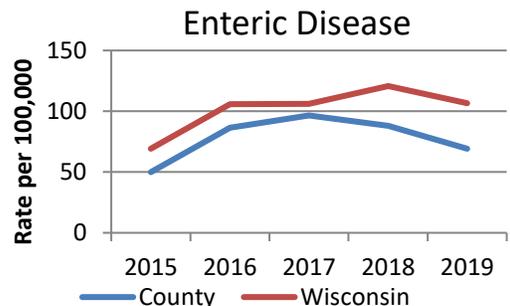
The goal of immunizing 90% of children is to protect a critical portion of the community against a contagious disease resulting in less opportunity for an outbreak. The department sends reminder recall notices to children under 3 years of age to increase immunization compliance. Before 2019, teen vaccination efforts consisted of school mass clinics which included HPV, Tdap and meningitis vaccinations. Since July 1, 2018 the state has limited the vaccine that can be offered at mass vaccination clinics to Influenza Vaccine.



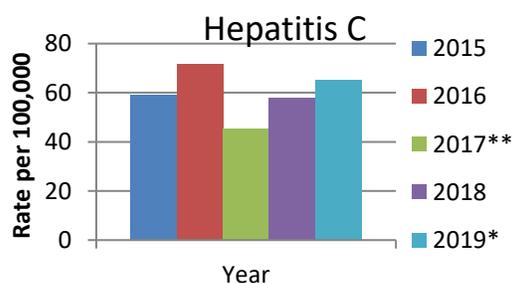
Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) rates for Manitowoc County have trended upward, and the number of cases of Gonorrhea in Manitowoc County has risen over the last 5 years. Follow up on STDs include contacting high risk individuals to assure proper treatment and education as well as obtaining the names of partners to prevent spread.



The rates of enteric diseases such as Salmonella and E. coli declined slightly in 2019. In addition to the individual cases reported, 9 enteric outbreaks were reported and after investigation, follow up and testing, 4 outbreaks were caused by Norovirus; 5 outbreaks were of unknown cause. Follow up on individual cases includes a source investigation and education to prevent the spread.



The Hepatitis C rates have increased steadily over the past 6 years. Surveillance efforts continue in the jail setting on a voluntary basis. An effort is made to obtain risk factors and identify any partners to prevent further spread. Follow up also includes re-testing if necessary and education as well as referral to treatment.



Respiratory Diseases such as Tuberculosis (TB) and Blastomycosis are reported to the health department and the cases are investigated and followed up as necessary. The majority of the reported contagious bacterial respiratory diseases are suspect TB. There were no cases of active TB reported in 2019 and 3 of 4 individuals completed or are in process of completing treatment with medication to prevent active TB.

Another common respiratory illness is Influenza which is only reportable when there is an outbreak, pediatric death or hospitalization identified. There were 5 respiratory outbreaks in long term care facilities reported that were confirmed for Coronavirus, RSV, Influenza or Parainfluenza.

*Preliminary Data

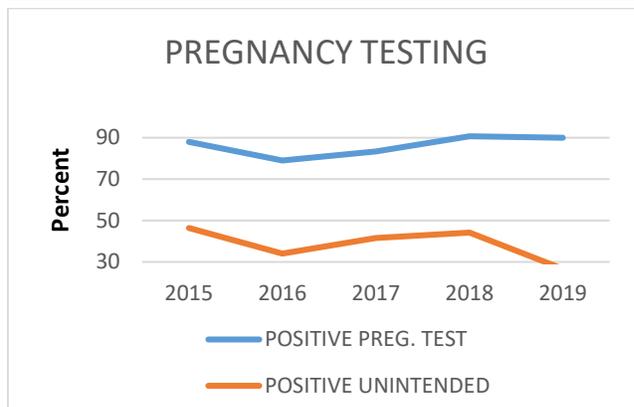
**In 2017, the Hepatitis C case definition changed and therefore, fewer cases met the case criteria and definition.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

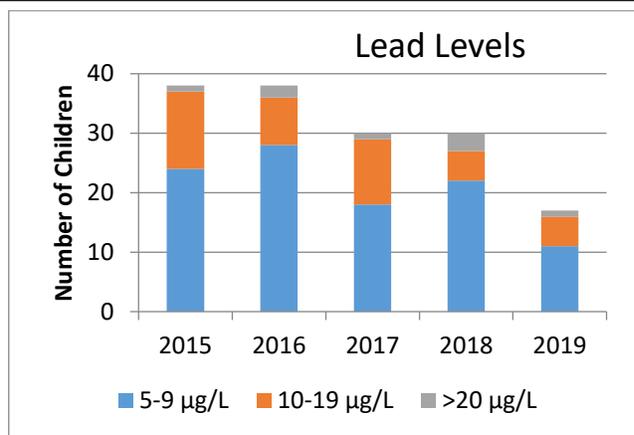
Healthy birth outcomes and early identification and treatment of health conditions among infants can prevent death or disability and enable children to reach their full potential.

The screenings offered that effect the maternal and child health populations are pregnancy testing and child blood lead testing. These screenings contribute to healthy birth and early childhood development outcomes.

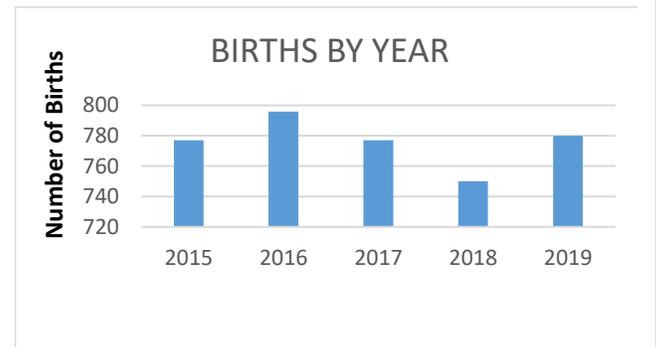
Free pregnancy tests and referral to appropriate services are provided early in pregnancy to assure healthy outcomes. Follow up includes case management for referral to medical and social services along with health education and counseling. In 2016 through 2019, the number of positive unintended pregnancies has remained low and the number of positive pregnancy tests remained stable.



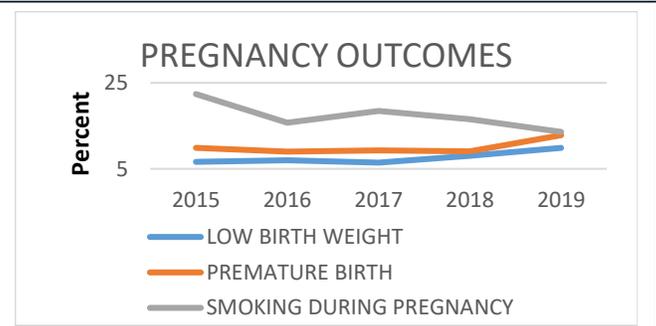
No safe blood lead level in children has been identified. Because lead exposure often occurs with no obvious symptoms, it frequently goes unrecognized and can effect neurological development of the child. Lead screening is provided along with follow up and case management in children with blood lead levels ≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ with intensive services in children that have levels ≥ 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$. About 10% of all lead screening in the county for 2019 was provided through the health department. The total number of all provider screenings per year ranges from 1100 to 1300.



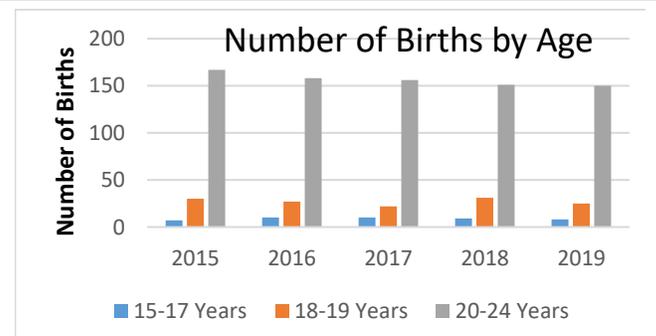
Healthy outcomes will be increased by providing parents of all children born in Manitowoc County with age appropriate information. Public Health Nurses provide home visits based on referrals from outside agencies as well as providers.



Smoking rates negatively impact premature birth and low birth weight. The number of women who smoked during pregnancy continues to slowly decline but is higher than the state average. Nurses offer referral to tobacco cessation resources as well as the WIC and PNCC programs.



Young pregnant women are at a much higher risk of having serious medical complications. Nurses refer sexually active women to providers to prevent unplanned pregnancies and refer high risk pregnant individuals for appropriate case management to resources such as WIC and PNCC. The number of young women delivering babies continues to decline.



PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTIONS

Public health nurses use their extensive knowledge of the community to organize community resources to collaboratively meet the health needs of families and individuals.

Interventions are the core of public health nurse activities which nurses carry out on behalf of individuals, families, systems, and communities to improve or protect health status.

Interventions	No. of Clients	Activities
Case Management	60	201
Outreach	16	22
Referral and Follow Up	61	74
Health Teaching	44	50
Delegated Functions	32	37

The goal of individual and family interventions is to change the knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, practices, and behaviors of individuals.

The public health nurses served 141 individuals and/or families with various interventions. The most common 5 interventions utilized are listed on the table along with the number of clients and activities.

Referral & Follow Up

Referral Type	Clients	# of Activities
BadgerCare	30	32
Medical Provider	25	26
WIC	27	27
Oral Health	8	9
PNCC	5	5

Public health nurses determine the most appropriate referral based on the need and the availability of effective strategies and resources in the community. Most of the referrals were made to BadgerCare, WIC and medical providers.

Health Teaching

Topic	Clients	# of Activities
Pregnancy	25	25
Access to Care	9	9
Infant Care	6	6
Breastfeeding Support	9	9

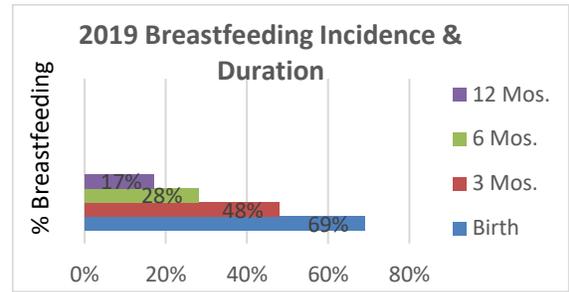
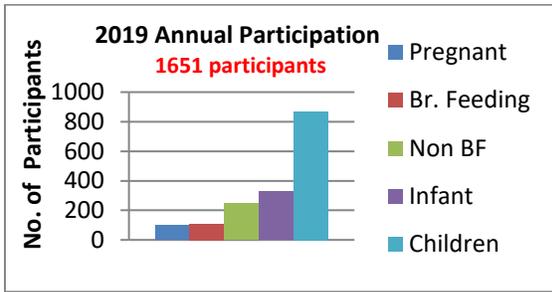
Health Teaching was one of the most utilized interventions in 2019. The public health nurses are strong advocates for individuals and families and provide health education, disease prevention and health promotion to improve outcomes.

Pregnancy, breastfeeding support and access to care were the most common health teaching topics. Home visits are offered based on referrals received from doctors, hospitals, birth certificate reviews, social workers and other agencies.

Women, Infants and Children

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Prenatal Care Coordination (PNCC) are the public health cornerstone for building healthier women, infants, children, families and communities.

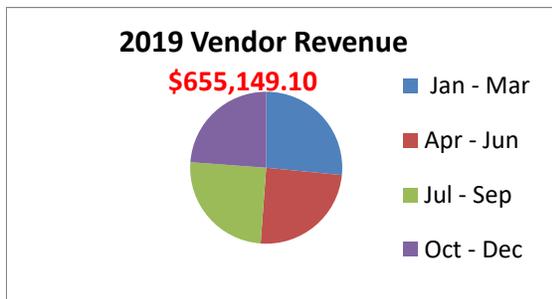
Goal: To improve the health of pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding Women, Infants and Children up to age 5



WIC and PNCC provide support for breastfeeding mothers with a team of nutritionists and nurses who both prenatally and post-delivery provide breastfeeding education and support.

WIC approved vendors are located throughout Manitowoc County. There are eleven locations of grocery stores and pharmacies available to our participants to purchase WIC approved foods.

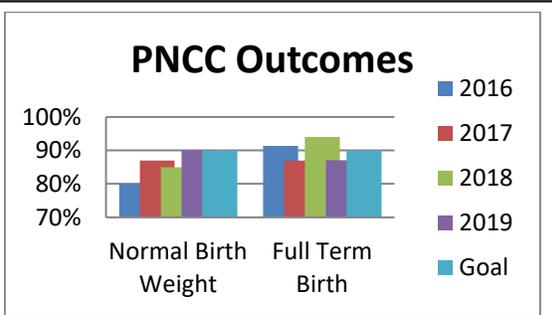
The WIC Farmers Market Program offers eligible WIC families checks to buy fresh produce from June through October at approved locations.



Prenatal Care Coordination Outcomes

Prenatal Care Coordination is a Medicaid benefit that helps pregnant women get the support and services they need to have a healthy baby. In 2019, 31 women received PNCC services.

The WIC Program provides supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition education and breastfeeding information/education for pregnant & postpartum women, infants and children under the age of 5. WIC staff make referrals to other service providers including health & other government programs. Breastfeeding education includes how to breastfeed, tools to help return to work/school and continue breastfeeding, and how to obtain and use a breast pump.



2019 saw the continuation and increase of participant usage of the Wisconsin MyWIC App. This smartphone tool works in conjunction with their eWIC card. New in 2019 the state launched WIChealth.org. We are now able to offer online nutrition education to working families or families with transportation issues. With this online access the families only need to come to the office twice per year instead of four times.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Manitowoc County is prepared to respond to all emergencies with a detailed plan of action and a system of communication with community responders. The second year grant cycle was from July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019 and it focused on the Information Management Domain which includes Emergency Public Information and Warning & Information Sharing. We accomplished this through sharing situational awareness across the health care and public health systems and by conducting external communication with the public. We worked to identify communication methods, frequency of information sharing, and the communication systems and platforms available to share information during an emergency response.

Accomplishments

- Built Partnerships through participation in a full-scale nuclear exercise.
- Administered mass influenza vaccinations to children under 19 years of age.
- Conducted a mass Hepatitis A vaccine functional exercise to inmates in the Manitowoc Jail.
- Partnered with key community leaders to complete a Hazard Vulnerability Assessment.
- Trained assigned preparedness staff and at a minimum, staff completed the ICS 100, ICS 200 and NIMS 700 classes.
- Maintained profiles in the public health emergency alerting system.
- Maintained communication with the Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition.
- Supported continuing education for preparedness coordinator through in-state and out of state conferences/ trainings including: HSEEP (Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Planning) certification, IMATS (Inventory Management and Tracking System) training, and HEP, WHALDAB, and PREP conferences.

	2017-2018 Year 1	2018-2019 Year 2	2019-2020 Year 3	2020-2021 Year 4	2021-2022 Year 5
DOMAIN	Community Resilience	Information Management	Countermeasures and Mitigation	Biosurveillance	Surge Management
Capabilities	Community Preparedness & Community Recovery	Emergency Public Information and Warning & Information Sharing	Medical Countermeasure Dispensing, Medical Materiel Management and Distribution, Non-pharmaceutical Interventions & Responder Safety and Health	Public Health Laboratory Testing & Public Health Surveillance and Epidemiological Investigation	Medical Surge, Mass Care, Volunteer Management & Fatality Management

Environmental Health

Environmental Health focuses on the protection and promotion of a healthy environment by preventing, assessing, correcting and controlling agents in the environment which could have adverse effects on the health and well-being of individuals and communities of Manitowoc County.

Inspections and Licensing

The Environmental Health Section of the Manitowoc County Health Department licenses and inspects the following facilities within Manitowoc County through contracts with the following Wisconsin agencies: DATCP and DSPS:

Manitowoc County Licensed Establishments	License Year 2018-2019
Restaurant and Retail Food Facilities	419
School Food Service (non-licensed)	19
Lodging	61
Campgrounds	11
Recreation and Educational Camps	6
Body Art	8
Swimming Pools, Whirlpools and Therapy Pools	33
Mobile Home Parks	13
Temporary Restaurants	47
Total	617

Radon Information Center

Environmental Health staff provides radon information and outreach for Brown, Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc and Calumet Counties in Northeastern Wisconsin through a grant from the State of Wisconsin and EPA. Radon is a naturally occurring radiological gas that has been linked to lung cancer. We provide information and test kits to citizens. Short term and long term test kits were offered for sale at cost from the Manitowoc County Health Department.

Test Kits Distributed	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Short Term Kits	320	144	170	161	175	160	189	187	281
Long Term Kits	12	4	13	19	22	14	28	52	44

Radiation Protection

Through a contract with the State of Wisconsin, environmental health staff collects environmental samples, such as air, milk, and water, around the area of the nuclear plants. Three staff members serve on the State Emergency Response Team which train yearly. We participate in the nuclear exercises with a field team, in the EOC and nurses staffing the congregate care facilities.

Safe Drinking Water

The Manitowoc County Health Department is involved in 2 aspects of monitoring and testing drinking water in Manitowoc County.

Transient Non-Community Well Program: The Environmental Health Section has a contract with the Wisconsin DNR for the purpose of assuring compliance with the Safe Drinking Water code as it applies to public transient non-community water systems. TNC water systems include rural churches, restaurants, parks and taverns and other businesses that serve over 25 different people 60 days or more per year. Work includes collecting drinking water samples, issuing all required enforcement letters and inspecting each well system every 5 years.

Number of TNC Systems tested for bacteria and nitrates and inspected annually	106
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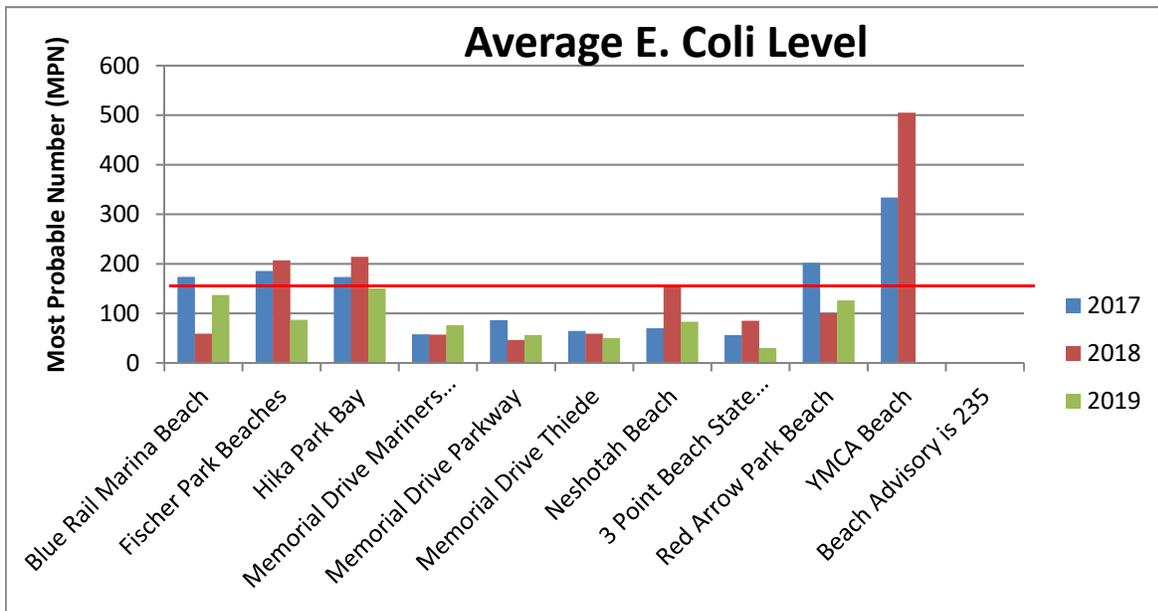
Free Well Water Testing for Houses with Pregnant Women and Infants

Manitowoc County Health Department provides free well water testing for coliform bacteria, nitrates, fluoride and metals for households with pregnant women and infants (up to 12 months old). The information provides information on the general drinking water quality from a metals perspective. Wells with abnormal results were retested after discussing possible parameters that may have contributed to the unsafe reading.

Wells tested	15
Unsafe coliform test	4
Elevated nitrate test	0

Beach Water Monitoring Program

During 2019, a total of 9 Manitowoc County beaches on Lake Michigan were monitored according to EPA standards for water quality and safety. Beach water samples are routinely collected and analyzed total and fecal coliform bacteria. The beach monitoring program was performed through a cooperative effort between UW-Oshkosh, the Manitowoc County Health Department, the City of Manitowoc, the City of Two Rivers and the Wisconsin DNR. This program was funded through an EPA grant administered by the DNR. Results were posted to the Wisconsin Beach Health website and signage was provided at the beaches indicating to the public the most current available water conditions and any risks associated with swimming in contaminated surface water. Any level over 235 MPN is an advisory, over 1000 MPN is a beach closure. The average E. coli levels for each beach are shown below.



Safe Housing, Indoor Air and Human Health Hazards

The Environmental Health Section receives complaints regarding poor plumbing, insects, indoor air, toxic chemicals, garbage and refuse, mold, health hazards, lack of heat, and generally unfit dwellings. State Statute requires that the local health officer orders the abatement or removal of human health hazards and if the order is not complied with, arranges for the hazard to be abated. We also work with local building inspectors, police, Planning and Zoning, Aging Resource Center and Human Services Departments to identify and correct poor living conditions.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total number of complaints received	69	85	65	25	30	33

Rabies Control

Wisconsin law requires that all dogs and cats, without current rabies vaccine, that bite or scratch a human must be impounded for 10 days under surveillance of a veterinarian. Domestic animals with current rabies vaccinations are required to be home quarantined for 10 days and observed by a veterinarian 3 times throughout the quarantine. Quarantine orders are issued by local law enforcement officials and the Manitowoc County Health Department. The Manitowoc County Health Department also serves as the primary source of rabies information for local physicians, law enforcement officials and veterinarians. Domestic animals that have been exposed to wild animals that have tested positive for rabies or that are not available for testing, require a special quarantine. These quarantine orders are issued by the Manitowoc County Health Department.

Animal Bites Reported	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Dog	170	136	150	140	137	144	131	145	158	153
Cat	70	44	43	57	57	52	47	49	61	61
Wild Animal (always tested for rabies)	12	12	10	18	11	9	15	7	10	6
Other Domestic Animal	2	0	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	2
Animal Bites (total)	254	192	204	216	207	206	194	203	230	222
WSLH Rabies Tests										
Dogs	12	11	7	10	5	9	6	10	7	3
Cats	14	13	10	8	10	10	6	5	11	12
Wild Animals and Other Domestic Animals	12	12	10	18	14	11	16	9	11	7
Total Animals Tested	40	36	27	36	29	30	28	24	19	22
Quarantine Order for Domestic Animals	4	3	3	5	8	2	4	1	1	0

Healthiest Manitowoc County

2019 Report on Progress

A Community Collaboration dedicated to improving the health of all who live, work and play in Manitowoc County

Coalitions

Investing Early, Substance Abuse Prevention & Mental Health, Injury Prevention, Access to Health Services, Youth Engagement, Worksite Wellness, and Physical Activity & Nutrition

The Health Department works in partnership with other organizations and community members on identified Health Priorities to improve the overall health of Manitowoc County. We can do more to improve health in collaboration than alone. The overall goal is to implement a Collective Impact model and have all of the coalitions work to decrease premature death in Manitowoc County. Each of the coalitions, under the guidance of the steering committee, identifies measures of improvement and implements the community health improvement plan to meet their target.

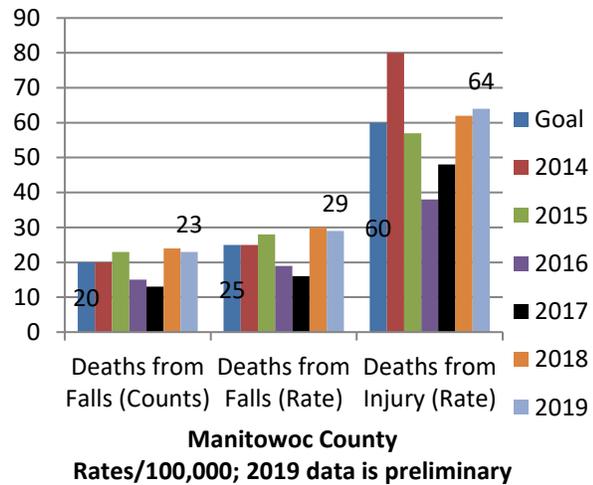
The Healthiest Manitowoc County Steering Committee used this year to implement the plan that was developed last year. Each coalition has co-chair leadership, which includes one PHN from the health department along with a community partner. The existing coalitions as well as the strategies are listed below and on the following 2 pages.

Injury Prevention (Falls)

EXISTING EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES:

The Falls Prevention Coalition has implemented the following evidenced based projects:

- Fall Risk Assessment & Individual Plans
- Chronic Disease self-management programs
- Stepping on
- Multi-component Fall Prevention Interventions
- Activity Programs for older adults including Tai Chi
- Working with EMS & providers to provide a system for patients to be referred to the ADRC after they've been picked up from a fall.
- Working on getting providers to implement a consistent risk assessment questionnaire and referral process for individuals who fell.



In 2003, Manitowoc County had the highest death rate from falls in the State of Wisconsin. For the aggregated years of 2016-18, Manitowoc County's death rate from falls was ranked – 50th, a vast improvement!

We are making progress on meeting our goals related to preventing deaths from falls and injuries, the death rate from falls remained steady in 2019 as well as the overall death rate from injuries.

Healthiest Manitowoc County

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Healthy Growth & Development or “Investing Early”

Investing Early is working to build an integrated system that promotes optimal physical, social-emotional, and developmental health of children and their families. The goal of Investing Early is that children will enter school ready to learn.

EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES:

- Universal Developmental Screening
- Reach out and Read
- Home Visitation
- Breastfeeding Education and Support
- Parent Cafés Workgroups
- Promote 5 Early Literacy Practices (Read, Sing, Write, Talk and Play)

Substance Abuse & Mental Health

Substance Abuse Prevention (SAP) workgroup focuses on preventing the use of addictive substances including Alcohol, Opiates, Marijuana, and Tobacco; focusing the majority of their efforts on youth prevention.

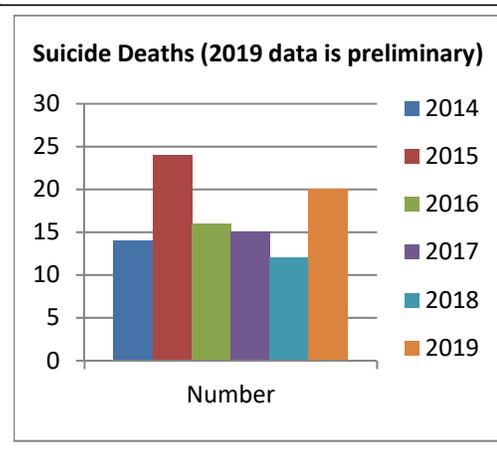
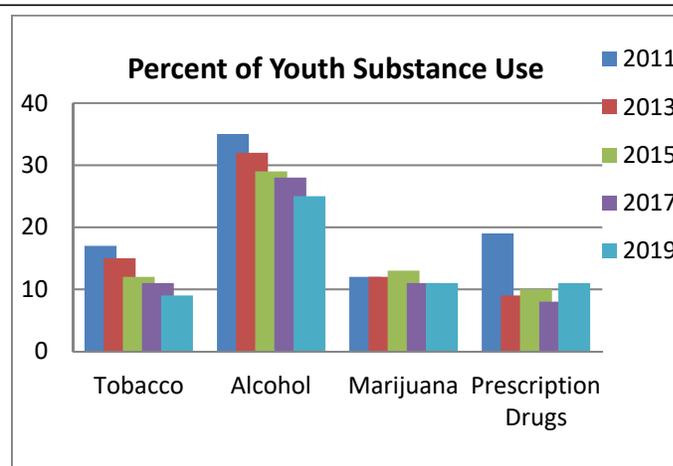
EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES:

- Enhanced enforcement of laws prohibiting alcohol sales to minors
- Hidden in plain sight
- Social host ordinances
- Community and school connectivity

Zero Suicide workgroup’s current goal is to decrease suicide rates in Manitowoc County by implementing a Zero Suicide system change.

EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES:

- Peer counsellors
- Cell phone based support programs (Text: Hope-line)
- QPR (question, persuade, refer) training
- Know the Signs jiffy’s for businesses



Access to Care workgroup aims to ensure all community members can develop strong supports and connections that are vital for the recovery process from the very start through the full continuum of care.

EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES:

- Implement and support a Recovery Oriented Services Community (ROSC).
- Identify and promote organizations, activities and resources addressing substance abuse and mental health.
- Create an interactive, in depth, resource tool for community members to identify and access various mental health, substance use/abuse, and community aid organizations.

Healthiest Manitowoc County

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Access to Health Services	Youth Engagement
<p>Access to Health Services focuses not only on getting community members linked up to health services, but the <i>right</i> health services.</p> <p>EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct focus groups among several populations' sub-groups identify underlying root causes for unmet health care needs. (Elderly, Latinos, Hmong, working middle class with high deductible plans, managed Medicaid plans).• Implement "Navigating the Health Care System" curriculum to upperclassman in High Schools• Maintain the existing Falls Prevention Coalition plan to effectively link systems of care to increase physical mobility, manage medications and the physical environment.• Train individuals to teach a health education curriculum to the elderly• Conduct a mass media health literacy campaign throughout the county	<p>Youth Engagement aims to increase youth's perceptions of feeling connected to their community and school</p> <p>EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support and advance "Kids at Hope" philosophy across all of Manitowoc County (http://kidsathope.org/).• Provide a "mini-masters" program in Manitowoc for over 200 individuals to be trained
Worksite Wellness	Physical Activity & Nutrition
<p>Worksite Wellness connects businesses and organizations to free/low cost resources and encourages all area businesses to implement wellness programs at the workplace.</p> <p>EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitate an annual business networking event• Provide low to no cost resources to business• Promote existing community programs and resources that can be implemented in the workplace• Create a quarterly worksite wellness newsletter with tips, tricks, and resources• Funnel other coalitions' strategies into businesses	<p>Physical Activity and Nutrition works on increasing youth weekly physical activity levels and decreasing adult obesity rates in Manitowoc County using local resources.</p> <p>EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement the summer program Strive for 25 encouraging 25 miles of physical activity, 25 good deeds, and 25 different types of fruits/veggies• Pilot a walking school bus program in local elementary schools• Identify and promote free resources and areas in the county to encourage an active lifestyle