

Board of Health

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Promoting and Protecting the Health of Delaware County

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June 20, 2024, Delaware County Board of Health Meeting Delaware County Department of Health Status Report

Administration

1. Old Business

- As of spring 2024, now using Yeadon Phase 3 for new public programming in community space. Ongoing work on optimization of logistics as staff continues to settle in.
- Ongoing partnership with Dr. Kristin Motley of Healthcare Solutions of Delaware Valley, for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity (DEI) work.
 - Fall 2023 survey of all DCHD staff members
 - First quarter 2024, completed DEI review of DCHD policies and procedures.
 - Conducted first DEI training for all DCHD managers in February 2024; and second training for all DCHD managers in March 2024.
 - Next steps involve facilitating meetings with the newly forming DEI Champions Workgroup, planning two department wide trainings, continuing the professional development workshop series with the leadership team, and sharing Healthcare Solutions' assessment report.
- Submitted Act 315 Program Plan to the state first week of April 2024.
- In final stages of completing first DCHD annual report.
- Continuing onboarding for the AchieveIT performance management system software which will be used to manage strategic planning and business strategy and track/monitor progress and success; roll out with staff management team late June 2024.
- Ongoing work with Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) on a Workforce Development initiative. Continuing to review all DCHD job descriptions, including considering readiness for PHAB accreditation requirements and linking each job description to the appropriate public health core competencies.
- Ongoing implementation and optimization of UKG/Kronos timekeeping/attendance software and timeclocks that went live as of 2/20/24.

2. New Business

- Conducting strategic planning; intensive budget and planning discussions spring 2024. Target to submit DCHD July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025 budget to Council and BOH in June 2024.

3. Highlights/Successes

- The Admin/Fiscal team is supporting continuous quality improvement in the day-to-day operations. The team is leveraging the insights learned into new guidance and policy for the department. The team championed the launch of UKG for timekeeping and attendance.
- The Admin/Fiscal team is championing improving the overall department's operational efficiency demonstrated throughout the detailed budgeting process. Tracking of expenses per division and program has improved significantly from previous years.

Environmental Health

1. Old Business

- Ongoing implementation and fine tuning of Environmental Health's operations plan initiated on 1/18/24. Environmental Health implemented 3 regions in Delaware County and created more diverse services coverage for all staff members. Maps are posted on DCHD webpage.
- The fine/violation process is in progress; Environmental Health met with administrators from Delaware County courts and received confirmation on magisterial map for Delaware County. The next step is a follow up meeting with the solicitor's office and drafting a standard operating procedure (SOP).

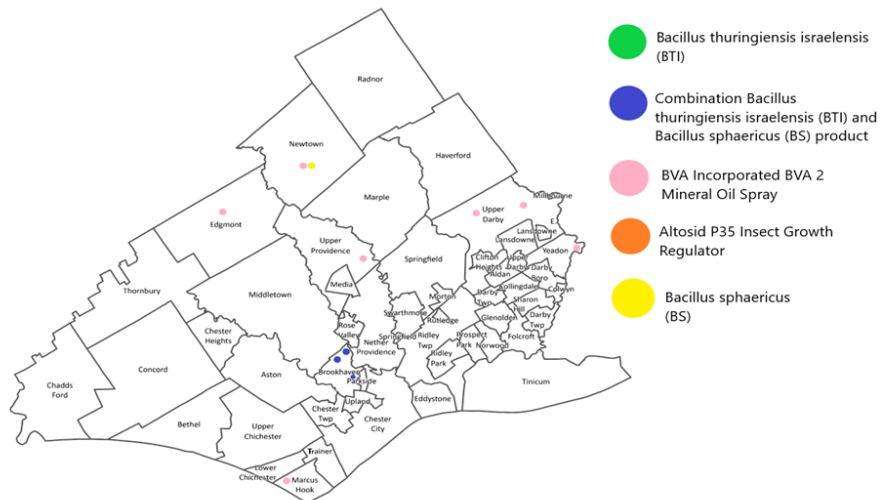
2. New Business

- 2024 Mosquito Borne Disease Control (MBDC) grant activities kicked off in May 2024. The 2024 award amount is \$209,582. Funds increased nearly \$50,000 for additional outreach programming and supplies.
 - There are currently 15 fixed mosquito surveillance sites established since 4/1/24. See attached map below for fixed site locations.
 - Approximately 450 mosquito **larvae** have been collected by MBDC staff between 5/10/24 and 5/16/24.
 - Adult mosquito surveillance began on 5/6/24; traps will be placed at each of the fixed sites until the end of September.
 - Approximately 750 **adult** mosquitoes have been collected by MDC staff between 5/10/24 and 5/17/24.
 - Adult mosquito control began on 5/1/24. Treatments for the week of 5/10/24 and 5/16/24 included in map below.
 - No positive disease-carrying mosquitoes detected that were lab tested on the week of 5/3/24 – 5/10/24.

70 ticks were collected during the of 5/10/24 – 5/16/24 one tick drag. No tick disease data available of 5/17/24.

2024 DCHD MDC Program Fixed Trap Sites

week from yet as



MDC Treatments Conducted 5/17/24 - 5/23/24

- New Liquid Waste Hauler program is tentatively scheduled to launch on 7/1/24.
 - License changes expected to be done by the end of May.
 - Notification letters for operators is being finalized and will be mailed to all known pump trucks and known dump sites, and municipal leaders.
 - Final review of all forms and documents in progress.
 - Planning to secure 2-3 strategically located sites within the county to conduct licensing and inspection of waste hauling vehicles and provide flexibility and convenience to haulers.

3. Highlights/Successes

- Successful start to the 2024 Public Bathing place permit renewal process. As of 5/25/24, all public pools registered in the Inspection Management System (IMS) have been inspected and/or licensed and will be open for the season. This is a strong improvement from this time last year.
- The first year of educational programming under the Outreach Technician position in the MBDC program is going very well, with ongoing scheduling of events starting in April 2024. The Outreach Technician has presented vector disease prevention to a diverse group of community members, including the senior populations, which has been a priority within the last few seasons.

5/22/24 Upper Darby, Watkins Senior Center

4/25/24, MBDC online with Representative O'Mara's Pesticide Education Event



Rep. Jennifer O'Mara · Follow
Apr 13 · 🌐

📢 Exciting News! Join us for a Pesticide Educational Webinar on April 25th at 6:30 pm!
🌐 🗣️ ... See more

facebook Live PennState Extension

Pesticide Education Event

Thursday, April 25
6:30 PM

Join this educational webinar to hear from experts at Penn State Extension and the Delaware County Health Department about pesticide use, mosquitoes, and alternative options.

JENNIFER O'MARA
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

@REPOMARA

👍❤️👍 26 13 comments 30 shares

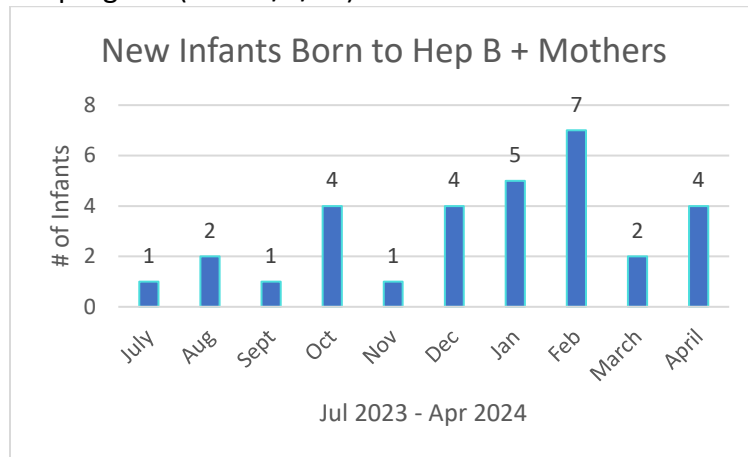
4/7/24 MBDC and Population Health, joint Jefferson Mammogram Mobile Screening and MBDC table, DCHD Yeadon Wellness Center

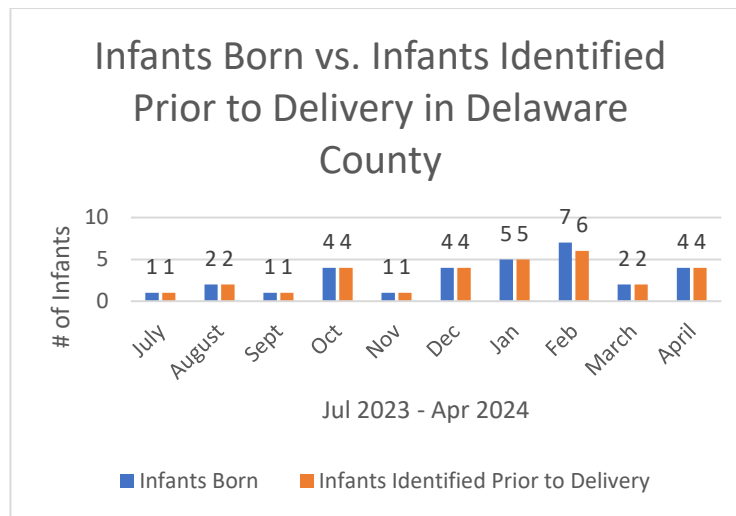


Personal Health

1. Old Business

- Recruitment and filling of position vacancies has been ongoing, particularly for Disease Intervention Specialists and Public Health Nurses.
- Health Services Research Administration (HRSA) congressionally directed funding/Delaware County Health Equity grant.
 - Point of care blood lead testing/screening machines and supplies have been purchased.
 - Memorandums of agreement, and training of partners is in progress.
- Pertussis cases continuing; in the week of 5/24/24, DCHD was investigating 16 open pertussis cases. DCHD providing ongoing school notifications and education (letters for parents and DCHD pertussis resource sheet).
- Perinatal Hepatitis B program (as of 5/1/24):





- Expectant mothers (due present through October 2024): 14
- Families (mothers + infants) in progress: 44
- Infants in progress for HBV series: 26
- Infants completed three dose HBV series: 18
- Infants overdue for HBV: 3 or 4 are a few days late but all have “soon” appointments
- Infants overdue for PVST: **13** of 18
- Tuberculosis (TB) program (as of 5/23/24):
 - 14 active cases, 14 electronically monitored treatment (eDOTS)
 - 33 latent TB infections (LTBI) currently being treated
 - 27 new positive tests (+ IGRA)

2. New Business

- New DCHD Teen Sexual Health Clinic began 5/28/24 (scheduled for alternating Tuesdays)
- Department of Labor (DOL) Congressional Directed Funding
 - Full application submitted to DOL in January 2024; revisions submitted 3/25/24. Decision pending. In preparation for this grant, DCHD received approval from Council to release two Request for Proposals (RFPs). These RFPs were released to partners on 2/25/24:
 - RFP Delaware County Birth Companion Program. Developing an Academic Birth Companion Program. 2024-2027; \$200,000 RFP 5124-4548-665104 - Summer 2024-Spring 2027.
 - RFP Delaware County Perinatal Doula Program – Growing and Diversifying the Doula Workforce. 2024-2027; \$600,000 RFP 5124-4548-665104 - Summer 2024-Spring 2027.
 - The timeline for these RFPs is as follows is submission deadline 4/3/24, selection notification on 4/17/24, county council review anticipated 5/1/24, and anticipated contract start date of 6/1/24.

3. Highlights/Successes

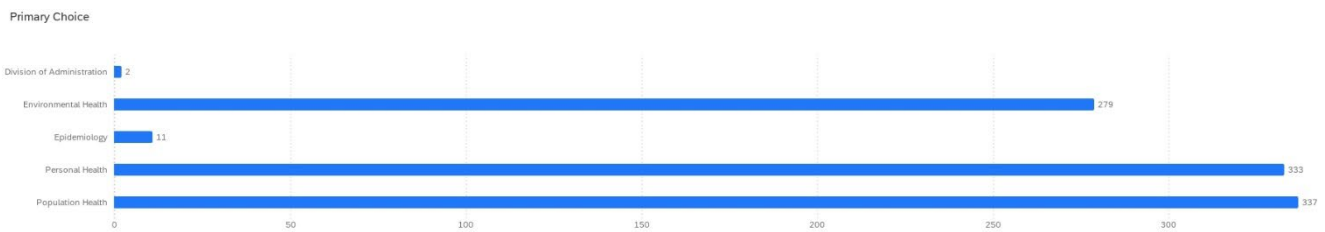
- During the first year of the Title V grant (July 1st, 2023 – June 30th, 2024), DCHD in collaboration with the Delaware County Intermediate Unit (DCIU), the Foundation for Delaware County, Maternity Care Coalition, and Pettaway Pursuit Foundation accomplished the following outcomes (preliminary data as of 4/1/24; complete information after 7/31/24):
 - The provision of doula services to 13 people, of which at least 8 were on Medicaid, 11 were identified as being Black or African American, and 2 were identified as being of Latinx or Hispanic origin. Among these 13 individuals, 30 prenatal visits were provided, 5 births were attended by a doula, and 5 postpartum visits were provided. All services were carried out by either The Foundation for Delaware County or Pettaway Pursuit Foundation through Title V funding that was distributed via DCHD contractual agreements.
 - The training of 20 new doulas through Title V funds that were provided to Maternity Care Coalition and the Foundation for Delaware County.
 - The purchase of 39 assistive technology devices/accessories via the DCIU.
- Achieved several successful “firsts” for DCHD’s immunization program:
 - First school-based immunization clinic conducted on 5/13/24. Personal Health partnered with Population Health to conduct the Upper Darby School District Vaccine Clinic. This represents fulfillment of a critical goal for the department, bolstering childhood vaccination in an underserved school district with vulnerable populations. This was accomplished with DCHD private stock of vaccines. Preliminary numbers:
 - Out of 46 students who attended the event, 42 students were vaccinated
 - 2 students did not need vaccines
 - 2 students had to reschedule because they were without adult supervision
 - 3 additional students arrived after the event was closed. They were referred to the June 8th Clinic that will be hosted at DCHD’s Wellness Center in Yeadon.
 - First Delaware County Immunization Council (DCIC) meeting hosted by DCHD on 4/5/24. Dr. Chichi Momah, Springfield Pharmacy presented on how it "takes a village" to provide vaccine education and access to Delaware county residents, while also recognizing the importance of finding the areas within the county that need access to vaccinations the most. The next virtual meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2024; Dr. Lisa O’Mahoney will share a presentation on hepatitis.
 - First DCHD Hepatitis Vaccination Event at a Drug & Alcohol treatment facility took place on 4/17/24 at Harwood House. DCHD partnered with Delaware County Drug & Alcohol Administration to identify two facilities to partner with for this effort. At the first event, DCHD vaccinated 7 people (about half of the clients at the Life Skills class), and gave the clients a brief overview and provided some education about Hepatitis A and B. A follow up visit at Harwood House is scheduled for 5/22/24.

Population Health

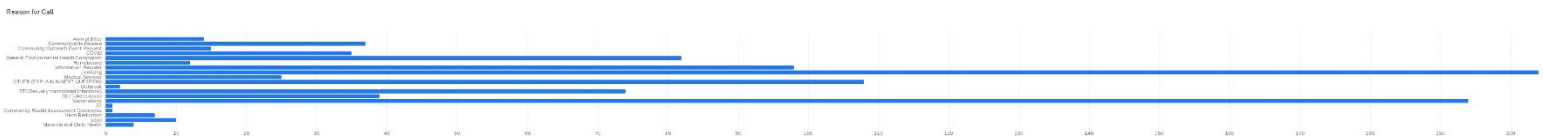
1. Old Business

- Continuing the partnership with Keystone First Wellness Van and Jefferson Health System for mobile mammography and other mobile health screening events throughout 2024. The next event is another mammogram screening at DCHD’s Chester Wellness center on 6/11/24.
- 2024 Diabetes Education Through Cooking Initiative launched in March 2024; partners included YMCA, Share Food Program (Delaware County’s emergency food partner) and Keystone First.
- DCHD continues ongoing Wellness Line call center activities (see charts below); highlighted excellence of the call center at the DCHD staff meeting on 5/8/24.

DCHD Wellness Line Call Center Intakes by Division (4/1/24-5/24/24)



DCHD Wellness Line Call Center Intakes by Call Type (4/1/24-5/24/24)



2. New Business

- New Population Health Administrator, Dr. Gifty Akomea Key, started at DCHD on 5/28/24. Public Health Emergency Preparedness clerk and call center representative both started on 4/29/24.
- DCHD launched “Mindfulness Mondays” in collaboration with Keystone First with a community yoga classes on 5/6/24; programming to continue every other month through September.

- Preparedness team submitted Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) annual fiscal year budget and 5 year workplan to the state in May 2024, and networked and engaged with regional, state, and national partners at the NACCHO Preparedness Summit in Cleveland Ohio in late March 2024, the Southeast PA Biowatch conference in Montgomery County PA in April 2024, and Workforce Engagement Statewide Training and Emergency Preparedness together (WE-STEP) conference in Camp Hill, PA in May 2024.

3. Highlights/Successes

- Strollin' Colon exhibit at Government Center on 3/22/24 succeeded in educating Delaware County residents about colon cancer screening and prevention.



Epidemiology

1. Old Business

- DCHD continuing to surveil respiratory and gastrointestinal illnesses. Syndromic Surveillance Week ending 05/18/24:
 - 7-day moving average of the percentage of Emergency Department visits increased for COVID-19 in 0-4 and 12-17 age groups
 - Pneumonia increased among those aged 50-64 age group
 - Gastrointestinal syndromes increased among all ages
 - Respiratory syndromes increased in 0-4 and 50-64 age groups
 - Highest number of communicable disease investigation reports in Delaware County, as of 5/24/24:
 - Hepatitis C, B followed by pertussis and varicella
- The Community Health Assessment was completed in March, and final documents are posted to the Community Health Assessment webpage. Delaware County residents and organizations were encouraged to review the documents and provide feedback during the public comment period, which was open April 5-19. No comments were received, and so the documents are considered final.
 - The community health priority areas selected through this process include:
 - Promote Whole Person Care, and Prevent Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders
 - Promote Maternal, Parental and Infant Health
 - Prevent Chronic Diseases
 - The overarching themes which will be interwoven and used as a lens for the multi-sector work include promoting health equity and improving access to and awareness of health care and community services. Our efforts to achieve health equity by addressing the underlying social and structural determinants of health will require sustained action and commitment across sectors, partners, and levels.

2. New Business

- Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Planning Committees for each of the three priority areas met in March and April to review key findings, and develop goals, objectives, and strategies to address community health issues. Committees were comprised of key community partners and DCHD staff.
 - DCHD staff from all divisions are participating in the CHIP. As we move into implementation, DCHD staff will be facilitating meetings, developing partnerships, and ensuring that established goals and priorities are carried out.
 - CHIP plans for each priority area are currently being finalized and formatted in coordination with the DCHD Strategic Plan.
 - Committee chairs are working to expand community representation on committees and identify routine meeting dates for CHIP implementation committees. Plans are being developed for a CHIP kick-off event in the fall.

3. Highlights/Successes

- As a strategy under the CHIP Chronic Disease priority, DCHD Epidemiology has initiated a partnership with St. Joseph's University/University of Pennsylvania to address concerning breast cancer data for Delaware County as described in the CHA. Breast cancer is the second most common cancer among women in the United States and Black women die from breast cancer at a higher rate than White women.

Communications

1. New Business

- Held DCHD's two-year anniversary celebration in April 2024. This included an employee engagement event, "Clean the Green," where DCHD employees beautified three parks in the county.



Highlights/Successes

- In collaboration with Population Health, Delco Revive media campaign to de-stigmatize and decrease negative reactions towards substance use disorders, addiction and harm reduction strategies launched with a media event on 5/21/24. Opioid settlement funds supported this project.



- DCHD commissioned a local production company to help create a promotional video for its new teen focused STI clinics that will begin this summer. The video is aimed at dispelling common myths that teens might believe about sex and STIs. It then provides them with the real facts and encourages them to take advantage of the teen STI clinics, which offer a safe place for teens to talk about sex, obtain free condoms, and obtain confidential STI testing services. The video will be offered to schools and will be shared on social media.



Epidemiology Addendum - Diabetes in Delaware County, PA

Diabetes is a significant chronic disease impacting the health of individuals from cradle to grave. The DCHD Epidemiology Division routinely monitors data on chronic diseases. Data and information on diabetes has been recently gaining the attention of internal and external stakeholders, including the City of Chester Board of Health. Delaware County diabetes data are available for DCHD's analysis via the Medical Examiner, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) case investigation reports, Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) interactive data and statistics databases, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and peer reviewed studies. The following summarizes DCHD Epidemiology's key findings on diabetes in Delaware County. Recommendations addressing diabetes prevention strategies will be provided in the near future.

Background: Prediabetes and Diabetes

Prediabetes: Linked to all-cause mortality including cardiovascular outcomes; Prediabetes Tests: A1c 5.7% to 6.4% or Fasting Blood Glucose 100-125 mg/dL

- In a meta-analysis of prospective studies (95 meta-analyses from 16 publications), prediabetes has been positively linked with risk of all-cause mortality and the incidence of cardiovascular outcomes, congenital heart disease, stroke, chronic kidney disease, cancer and dementia.
Source: Schlesinger S, Neuenschwander M, Barbaresko J, Lang A, Maalmi H, Rathmann W, Roden M, Herder C. Prediabetes and risk of mortality, diabetes-related complications and comorbidities: umbrella review of meta-analyses of prospective studies. Diabetologia. 2022 Feb;65(2):275-285. doi: 10.1007/s00125-021-05592-3. Epub 2021 Oct 31. PMID: 34718834; PMCID: PMC8741660. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8741660/>

Diabetes: A major risk factor for cardiovascular disease (CVD); Diabetes Tests: A1c 6.5% or Fasting Blood Glucose above or 126 mg/dL or above

- The adverse effect of diabetes encompasses the cardiovascular system, microvasculature, larger arteries, the heart, and the kidneys.
- Diabetes is a particularly strong CVD risk factor among women and the elderly population.
Source: Grundy SM, Benjamin IJ, Burke GL, Chait A, Eckel RH, Howard BV, Mitch W, Smith SC, Sowers JR. Diabetes and cardiovascular disease: a statement for health professionals from the American Heart Association. Circulation. 1999; 100:1134–1146, <https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/01.CIR.100.10.1132>
- Adults with diabetes have 2-4 times increased CVD risk compared with adults without diabetes, and the risk rises with deteriorating glycemic control.
- Diabetes has been linked with a 75% increase in mortality rate in adults, and CVD accounts for a significant share of the excess mortality.
Source: Dal Canto E, Ceriello A, Rydén L, Ferrini M, Hansen TB, Schnell O, Standl E, Beulens JW. Diabetes as a cardiovascular risk factor: An overview of global trends of macro and micro vascular complications. Eur J Prev Cardiol. 2019 Dec;26(2_suppl):25-32. doi: 10.1177/2047487319878371. Epub 2019 Nov 13. PMID: 31722562. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31722562/>

Delaware County Data on Prediabetes & Diabetes

Data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) are representative of the US population. Therefore, estimates for Delaware County can be calculated from these national data by extrapolating NHANES data prevalence to county population data (for any disease or condition).

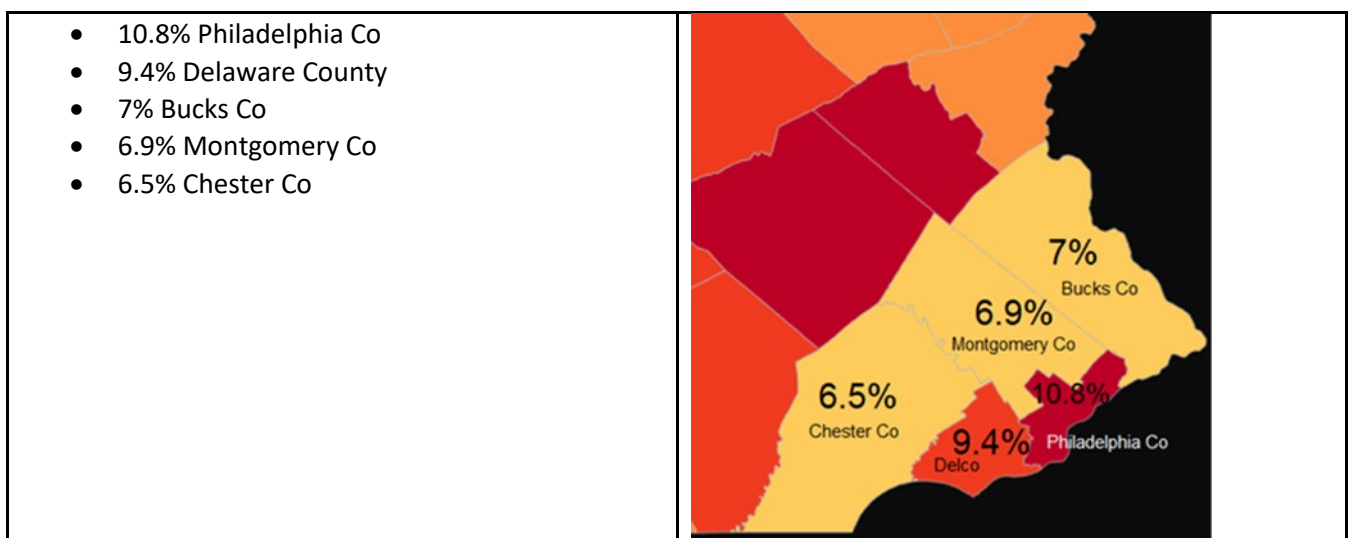
Prediabetes – Delaware County Extrapolated Prevalence

Extrapolating 2021 national data from NHANES results in an estimate for Delaware County that **38% of people aged 18 years or older and 48.8% among those 65 years or older have prediabetes** (A1c 5.7% to 6.4% or Fasting Blood Glucose 100-125 mg/dL).

Diabetes – Delaware County Extrapolated Prevalence (Range 9.4% to 11.6%)

In 2021, an estimated 38.4 million people, or 11.6% of the total US population, had diabetes. Extrapolated estimated data for Delaware County indicate that **11.6% of the people aged 18 years or older have diabetes** (A1c 6.5% or Fasting Blood Glucose above or 126 mg/dL or above). The NHANES extrapolated estimate of 11.6% of people ages 18 or older is higher than the percentage provided by the CDC of 9.4% from US Diabetes Surveillance System (USDSS) application (Figure 1). These data provided at the national, state, and county-level estimates are updated by the CDC as new data become available.

Figure 1 USDSS Diagnosed Diabetes Percentage 2021



Source: Analysis - United States Diabetes Surveillance System <https://qis.cdc.gov/grasp/diabetes/diabetesatlas-analysis.html#>

Diabetes – Delaware County Mortality

PADOH death certificate data from 2018-2022 show that diabetes mellitus (Type 2 diabetes) was the 5th leading cause of death among persons of all races and ages in Delaware County. Heart disease, cancer, mental and behavioral disorders, and infectious and parasitic diseases ranked 1st to 4th respectively with the highest number of deaths for that period.

Diabetes – Delaware County Disparities

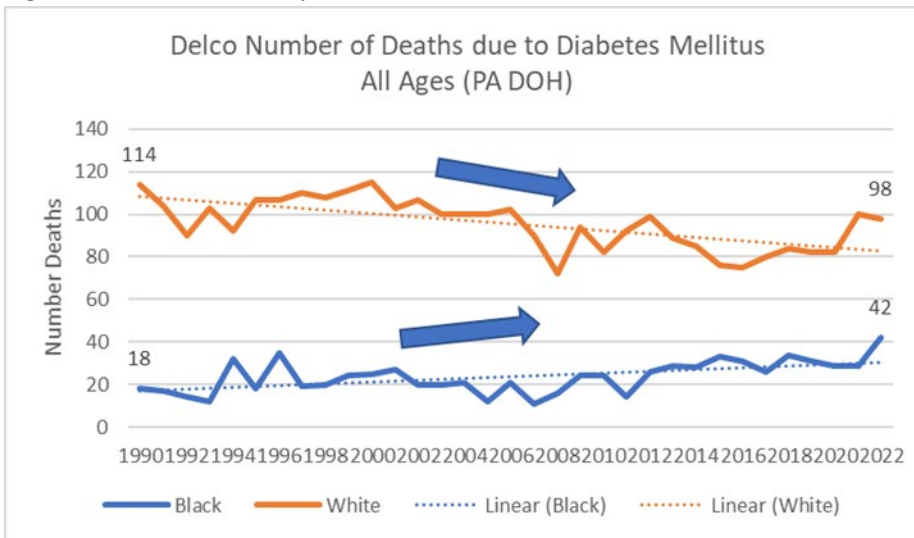
1) Pregnancy (2016-2020 birth linked to death data)

- Pre-Pregnancy Diabetes: Higher percentage of Black mothers 1.82% experiencing infant mortality with pre-pregnancy diabetes compared to White mothers 0%
- Gestational Diabetes: Higher percentage of Black mothers 6.36% experiencing infant mortality with gestational diabetes compared to White mothers 2.90%

2) Mortality

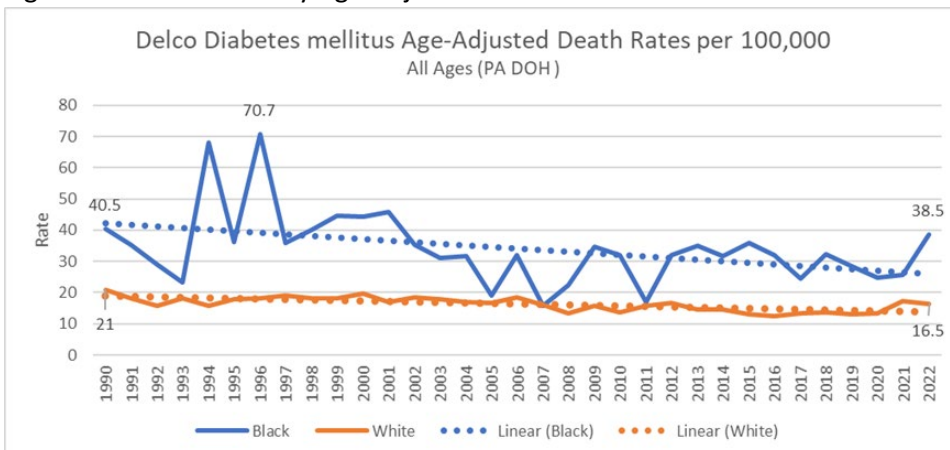
- The Delaware County 2018-2022 relative risk of death due to diabetes mellitus was 87% higher among Black persons compared to White (Age-adjusted death rate Black 29.8 per 100,000 / White 13.5 = 1.87).
- The number of annual deaths due to Diabetes Mellitus showed an increasing trend from 1990-to 2022 among Black persons and a decreasing trend in White [Figure 1].
- Since 1990 Delaware County White and Black populations have realized reductions in the risk of death due to Diabetes Mellitus (a.k.a. Type 2 Diabetes or T2D). However, after adjusting for the effect of older age, the risk of death was 2.2 times higher among Black persons compared to White in 2022 (Figure 2).

Figure 2 Delaware County Number of Diabetes Mellitus Deaths 1990-2022



Source: PA DOH <https://www.phaim1.health.pa.gov/EDD/WebForms/DeathCntySt.aspx>

Figure 3 Delaware County Age-Adjusted Death rates Diabetes Mellitus



Source: PA DOH <https://www.phaim1.health.pa.gov/EDD/WebForms/DeathCntySt.aspx>

3) City of Chester

- Heart diseases, cancer, and diabetes are among the top 10 leading causes of death in the City of Chester. Since 1990 and up to 2022 (most recent available data) all three conditions have experienced a decreasing trend.
- **However, deaths due to diabetes, have not experienced the same degree of reduction in the number of deaths compared to heart diseases and cancer.**
- From 1990 to 2022 the total number of deaths due to diabetes was **higher in women**, while men had a slightly higher number of deaths due to heart diseases and cancer (Table 1)

Table 1 Number of Deaths (1990-2022) Higher Number in Yellow

	Females	Males	Difference
Heart Diseases	1,672	1,688	16
Cancer	1,525	1,534	9
Diabetes	216	182	34

Table 2 Leading Causes of Death Delaware County 2018-2022

Ranking	Condition	County	Years	Race	Age	Number Deaths
1	Heart disease	Delaware	2018-2022	All Races	All Ages	6,379
2	Cancer	Delaware	2018-2022	All Races	All Ages	5,555
3	Mental and behavioral disorders	Delaware	2018-2022	All Races	All Ages	1,790
4	Infectious and parasitic diseases	Delaware	2018-2022	All Races	All Ages	730
5	Diabetes mellitus	Delaware	2018-2022	All Races	All Ages	646

Source: PA DOH,

https://www.phaim1.health.pa.gov/EDD/WebForms/DeathCntySt.aspx#Pd57acb8ee39a4d71a68b10ac810fd9fe10_81iTO

Table 3 Relative Risk of Diabetes Death Black : White Age-Adjusted Rates per 100,000

			Number of Deaths	Age-Adjusted Death Rate per 100,000	UCI	LCI
Diabetes mellitus	2018-2022	Black	165	29.8	25.3	34.4
Diabetes mellitus	2018-2022	White	446	14.9	13.5	16.2

Source: PA DOH,

https://www.phaim1.health.pa.gov/EDD/WebForms/DeathCntySt.aspx#Pd57acb8ee39a4d71a68b10ac810fd9fe10_81iTO

DISCLAIMER: PADOH data were provided by the Health Informatics Office, Pennsylvania Department of Health. The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations, or conclusions.