DSHS Overview

Presentation to the House Committee on Public Health
February 2023
Jennifer A. Shuford, MD, MPH
Commissioner
Texas Department of State Health Services
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 purpose
- Engage and connect as a team
**DSHS Roles**

**Public and Population Leader:**
- Work with stakeholders to achieve specific public health goals

**Science and Data Source:**
- Provide public health expertise and consultation and communicate public health data and information

**Public Health Convener/Partner:**
- Identify key partnership opportunities and collaborate with experts to inform public health planning

**Provider:**
- Ensure access to state public health programs and services
## DSHS Programmatic Divisions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Divisions</th>
<th>Functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional and Local Health</td>
<td>Health Emergency Preparedness and Response; Regional Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Services; Texas Center for Infectious Disease; Border Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Protection</td>
<td>Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Care Systems;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental Health; Food and Drug Safety; Radiation Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory and Infectious</td>
<td>State Public Health Laboratory; Infectious Disease Detection and Response;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease</td>
<td>Immunizations; TB/HIV/STD Prevention and Treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health Improvement</td>
<td>Environmental Epidemiology and Disease Registries; Maternal and Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health; Health Promotion and Chronic Disease; Vital Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Chief State</td>
<td>Health Statistics, Data Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epidemiologist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Regional and Local Health Operations
Regional and Local Health Operations

Public Health Coverage in Texas

Provide direct clinical care and public health services for the entire state through field offices

Eight Public Health Regions

Provides high quality medical care and professional education of providers for patients with hard to treat/cure tuberculosis (TB)

Texas Center for Infectious Disease

Provides statewide public health and medical preparedness and response to natural and manmade disasters

Health Emergency Preparedness and Response

Coordinates and promotes health issues on the border between Texas and Mexico

Border Public Health

Regional and Local Health Operations
Public Health Region Services

- Epidemiology - infectious and chronic diseases
- Public health services – individual and population-based
- HIV/STD detection, prevention and education
- Case management services for special needs children, pregnant women, and at-risk children on Medicaid
- Immunizations
- Oral health prevention and surveillance
- Public health sanitation
- Tuberculosis case management, screening, and outbreak response
Health Emergency Preparedness and Response

• Statewide public health and healthcare systems emergency preparedness
• Public health and medical response to all types of disasters:
  • Natural disasters like hurricanes, wildfires, and flooding
  • Bioterrorism
  • Manmade disasters
  • Foodborne and Infectious disease outbreaks
Texas Center for Infectious Disease

• Texas Center for Infectious Disease (TCID) in San Antonio is a Joint Commission accredited and Medicare Certified Long-Term Care Hospital that began operation in 1953.

• **Features of TCID:**
  • 75-bed specialty hospital with integrated air quality and security systems
  • Each private room/bath is designed to prevent TB transmission and enhance the patient experience during a prolonged hospital stay of 6 months to 2 years
  • Care is patient-centered, physician-led and multidisciplinary
Consumer Protection
Consumer Protection

- **Food, Drug, and Meat Safety**: Provides food safety regulation including for meat and milk, sets minimum requirements for food establishments, and is responsible for the state’s drug safety programs.

- **EMS and Trauma Systems**: Regulates Emergency Medical Services providers and companies, oversees trauma system coordination and facility designations, and administratively supports the Medical Advisory Board.

- **Environmental Hazards Programs**: Reduces exposure to asbestos, lead-based paint, hazardous chemicals, abusable volatile chemicals, and hazardous products through education and regulatory efforts.

- **Radiation Control Program**: Prevents unnecessary radiation exposure through licensing and inspection of X-rays, mammography systems, and industrial radiation sources and through emergency response.
Licensing and Inspections

- DSHS oversees producers of consumer health goods and certain health-related service providers to ensure public safety.

- DSHS provides minimum standards for licensing and operations, in alignment with federal requirements as applicable.

- DSHS conducts licensing, inspections, and compliance enforcement for thousands of licensees statewide.

### Regulated Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulated Activities</th>
<th>Licenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retail Food Establishments</td>
<td>8,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Manufacturer</td>
<td>22,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drugs and Medical Devices</td>
<td>9,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asbestos Abatement</td>
<td>7,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X-Ray and Mammography</td>
<td>19,606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radioactive Materials</td>
<td>1,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Camps</td>
<td>337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk and Dairy</td>
<td>1,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Personnel</td>
<td>74,198</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EMS and Trauma Systems

Texas Trauma Service Areas

• **EMS**: Regulates EMS providers, including EMS companies and 74,000+ EMS personnel

• **Trauma System**: Ensures a system is in place for critically injured or ill persons to get to the right place in the right amount of time in order to receive optimal care. System coordinated through 22 Trauma Service Areas administered by Regional Advisory Councils (RACs)

  • **Levels of Care Designations**: Validate the highest level of care a hospital provides for trauma, neonatal, maternal, and stroke services
Laboratory and Infectious Disease Services
Laboratory and Infectious Disease Services

State Public Health Laboratory
Serves as the Public Health Reference Laboratory for the state and as the largest-volume newborn screening testing program in the world

Infectious Disease Surveillance and Response
Monitors infectious disease trends and responds to large-scale outbreaks in collaboration with local and regional health entities

Immunizations
Provides vaccine access to uninsured and underinsured children and adults, and is responsible for the state’s vaccine-related data, including the Texas opt-in immunization registry

TB/HIV/STD Prevention and Treatment
Reduces the incidence of HIV, tuberculosis, and sexually transmitted diseases through education, access to care, and treatment
1.3 million annual samples submitted for testing, including tests related to:

- 55 genetic disorders in newborns
- Diabetes, lead screening, and anemia in children
- Tuberculosis testing
- Foodborne illnesses in foods, milk and other dairy
- Rabies testing in animals
- Respiratory and other high-consequence diseases
- Antibiotic resistance testing
- Radiation in drinking water and soil
- HIV and other STD testing
- Harmful chemicals and metals in drinking water
- Mosquito borne diseases
Newborn Screening and Follow Up

55 Disorders Screened by the DSHS Lab
- These conditions have direct interventions that can prevent serious complications, disabilities, and death

Two Point of Care Screens at Birth
- Hearing Screening
- Critical Congenital Heart Disease

Nearly 400,000 babies screened annually
- A first test at 24 to 48 hours after birth
- A second one at the baby’s checkup at one to two weeks

19,900 babies referred for medical follow up
- Over 1,000 babies annually have a confirmed diagnosis
- DSHS connects families with resources through its care coordination program
## Low-Cost Vaccine Options for Uninsured and Underinsured Texans

### Texas Vaccines for Children
*Uninsured, Underinsured, and CHIP with parental consent*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Vaccine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DTaP</td>
<td>Influenza</td>
<td>Polio</td>
<td>Measles,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis A</td>
<td>Measles,</td>
<td>Rotavirus</td>
<td>Mumps and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
<td>Mumps and</td>
<td>Tdap/Td</td>
<td>Rubella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hib</td>
<td>Rubella</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meningococcal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPV</td>
<td>Meningococcal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pneumococcal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Adult Safety Net
*Uninsured and Underinsured*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Vaccine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis A</td>
<td>Measles,</td>
<td>Pneumococcal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
<td>Mumps and</td>
<td>conjugate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPV</td>
<td>Rubella</td>
<td>Tdap/Td</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meningococcal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Varicella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pneumococcal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Statistics

- **4.8 Million Children Served**
- **370,000 Texans Served**
The Texas HIV Medications Program (THMP) serves low-income Texans living with HIV through three separate programs.

- **15,600**: Clients receive direct medications from 500 participating pharmacies
  - AIDS Drug Assistance Program

- **1,800**: Clients with Medicare Part D receive help with deductibles, co-insurance and co-pays
  - State Pharmacy Assistance Program

- **270**: Clients receive help with insurance premiums, medication co-payments, and co-insurance
  - Texas Insurance Assistance Program
Community Health Improvement
Community Health Improvement

**Environmental Epidemiology and Disease Registries**
Maintains data, monitors, and investigates unusual disease occurrence as it pertains to birth defects, blood lead levels, cancer, and environmental-associated disease.

**Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention**
Promotes education, prevention, and management of chronic disease like tobacco-associated conditions, cardiovascular disease, stroke, diabetes, and Alzheimer's.

**Maternal and Child Health**
Fosters data-driven, community-based, and coordinated systems of care to improve the health of mothers, babies, and children with special health care needs.

**Vital Statistics**
Maintains and keeps secure all Texas vital records, including birth and death certificates and marriage and divorce records.
Texas statute charges DSHS with maintenance and security of all Texas vital records, including birth and death certificates, marriage, and divorce records.

645,547 applications received in 2022

2.7 Million certificates and verifications issued in 2022

397,824 births registered in 2022

245,314 deaths registered in 2022
Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Efforts

• Peers Against Tobacco is a program designed to reduce the use of tobacco and alternative tobacco products among college and university students.

• Say What! is a statewide youth tobacco use prevention movement in Texas that connects youth and adults working toward reducing tobacco use.

• Texas Tobacco Quitline (phone line) offers cessation services at no cost to Texas residents.

Vapes Down ads aimed at preventing youth from using tobacco and vaping products
Texas AIM provides the health care system "bundles" of education and resources to address 98.4% of preventable maternal deaths in Texas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obstetric Hemorrhage</td>
<td>Ongoing since November 2018</td>
<td>Rate of obstetric hemorrhage decreased 8.6% in hospital deliveries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Hypertension</td>
<td>Relaunch with hospitals in January 2023</td>
<td>94% of Texas hospitals (210) with obstetric services are expected to participate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid and Substance Use Disorder</td>
<td>Launches Spring 2023</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac Conditions</td>
<td>Launch Expected December 2024</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sepsis</td>
<td>Launch Expected December 2026</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hear Her Texas Public and Provider Awareness Campaign**
- The DSHS Hear Her Texas campaign empowers women, their health care providers, and support networks to know the urgent maternal warning signs and seek care when they have concerns.
- See the campaign at dshs.texas.gov/HearHerTX

**High-Risk Maternal Care Coordination Services Pilot**
- Community-based high risk-care coordination for moms in Northeast Texas
- Courses supporting community health workers
- Pilot to begin with at least 60 moms
  *The 18-month pilot begins March 2023*
Office of Chief State Epidemiologist
Office of the Chief State Epidemiologist

• Provides leadership for data-driven activities and policy formation aimed at improving the health of all Texans.

  • Created to prioritize more robust public health and data-driven response to current and future public health concerns.

  • Also ensures appropriate and statute-based data governance and sharing with public health partners.

Examples of Data Collection and Coordination

• Cause of death
• Hospital discharge
• Health professions
• Mental health
• Chronic disease
• Health behaviors
• Injury and trauma

Data available at: https://healthdata.dshs.texas.gov/
Data Example: Fentanyl-Related Deaths

Synthetic Opioid Deaths related to Fentanyl, 2018 – 2022*

*2020-2022 data is provisional. Association with fentanyl is determined by narrative in the death certificate, as recorded by the medical certifier.
DSHS FY 2024 – 2025
Exceptional Item Requests
## Summary of FY 2024 - 2025

### Exceptional Item Requests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exceptional Item</th>
<th>Biennial GR/GRD</th>
<th>Biennial All Funds</th>
<th>FY 2024 FTEs</th>
<th>FY 2025 FTEs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DSHS FY 2024 - 2025 Base Request</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1  Maintaining Agency Operations and Infrastructure</td>
<td>$12,732,789</td>
<td>$12,732,789</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2  Driving Public Health Response through Technological Tools</td>
<td>$17,550,254</td>
<td>$30,196,436</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3  Ensuring Access to Frontline Public Health Services</td>
<td>$42,459,622</td>
<td>$42,459,622</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4  Reducing the Impact of Preventable Disease</td>
<td>$20,056,282</td>
<td>$20,056,282</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5  Supporting Businesses and Economic Needs</td>
<td>$2,658,673</td>
<td>$2,658,673</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6  Strengthening Readiness for Public Health Emergency Response</td>
<td>$14,168,232</td>
<td>$14,868,204</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7  Securing State Trauma System Coordination</td>
<td>$6,600,000</td>
<td>$6,600,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8  Improving Maternal Health Data Availability</td>
<td>$2,637,745</td>
<td>$2,637,745</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9  Adopting New Federal Policies for HIV Treatment</td>
<td>$57,744,728</td>
<td>$57,744,728</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total, Exceptional Items</strong></td>
<td>$176,608,325</td>
<td>$189,954,479</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total, DSHS Base + Exceptional Items</strong></td>
<td>$1,073,541,134</td>
<td>$2,320,502,414</td>
<td>3,406</td>
<td>3,422</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>