



Scott County Health Department

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Director's Report to the Board of Health July 16, 2021

Director's Attended Meetings

- Quad City Health Initiative Vaccine Outreach Discussion
- Nicole Carkner, Quad City Health Initiative
- Ken Beck, Scott County Board of Supervisor
- Genesis Health System, UnityPoint Health-Trinity and Iowa Department of Public Health Immunization (IDPH) Bureau
- Open Discussion of Local Public Health Administrators
- Radiological Exercise Dress Rehearsal
- IDPH Case Investigation Webinar
- Iowa Public Health Association Strategic Planning Call with Local Public Health Administrators
- IDPH and Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) Webinar on At-Home COVID-19 Test Kit Pick-up Sites
- Scott County Community Vaccine Planning Group (3)
- Area 5 HealthCare Coalition
- Discussion with Chamberlain University Regarding Student Placement
- Live Lead Free Quad Cities Coalition
- Quad Cities Emergency Management Agency COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center Briefing
- IDPH COVID-19 Vaccination Program Onsite Assessment
- Virtual National Association of County and City Health Officials Annual Conference

I would like to recognize the following employee for their years of service with the Department:

Leah Mariblana, Correctional Health Per Diem Nurse	1 year	July 13
Melissa Dangelser, Correctional Health Per Diem Nurse	1 year	July 14
Barb Smith, Correctional Health Per Diem Nurse	2 years	July 22
Cindi Levetzow, Office Assistant	13 years	July 30
Trish Beckman, Medical Assistant	16 years	July 18

I would like to acknowledge the following new employee:

LaBridgette Tensley, Maternal & Child Health Consultant	July 12
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I would like to share the following transfer:

Shiobhan Burkhead from Public Health Nurse to Per Diem Nurse	July 12
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I would like to recognize the following retirement:

Teri Arnold, Grant Accounting Specialist

August 2

20 years

Assessment

Assess and monitor population health status, factors that influence health, and community needs and assets

Community Health Assessment Steering Committee

Staff participated in Quad Cities Community Health Assessment Steering Committee planning meetings. Steering Committee and Stakeholder Committee members are planning a series of focus groups with various populations in the community as part of the qualitative data gathering process of the assessment. Scott County Health Department (SCHD) staff will be facilitating focus groups for the senior population as well as for the healthcare/public health sector. The focus groups will take place during the month of July. The qualitative data gathering, through household surveys, will also be taking place at the same time.

Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population

Communicable Disease Program

One hundred and four communicable diseases were reported during June. They included eighty-eight cases of COVID-19, four cases of hepatitis C, three cases of cryptosporidiosis, three cases of salmonellosis, two cases of hepatitis B, two cases of campylobacteriosis, one E. coli infection, and one case of legionellosis.

Rabies Risk Assessments

Twenty-six individuals required rabies risk assessments after exposures to eighteen dogs, five cats, two bats, and one possible shrew. Six individuals were recommended for rabies post-exposure prophylaxis for high risk exposures or bites above the shoulders, and four started treatment.

Sexual Health Program

Forty-eight clients received sexually transmitted infection (STI) clinic services during June. Seven clients tested positive for chlamydia and two tested positive for gonorrhea at the Health Department's clinic. In total, ninety-four cases of chlamydia, fifty-four cases of gonorrhea, and four cases of syphilis were reported in Scott County during the month.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

In June, there were four children receiving individual case management. Of those, three had a blood lead level less than 15 ug/dL and one had a blood lead level between 15-19 ug/dL. Three children with an initial blood lead level between 10-14 ug/dL received supportive services (visual inspections, education over the telephone, appointment reminders) for lead poisoning this month. Of those, one had a blood lead level between 10-14 ug/dL and two had a blood lead level less than 10 ug/dL. These children receive public health nursing support until two

consecutive blood lead levels equal to or below 5 ug/dL are obtained.

Policy Development

Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health factors that influence it, and how to improve it

Presentation at Scott County Kids NEST

Staff provided a virtual presentation to eight participants from the Scott County Kids NEST, a program that offers classes about pregnancy and infant care. SCHED's community tobacco consultant discussed the negative health impacts of tobacco and nicotine use, including those experienced by pregnant people and their unborn babies; as well as reviewed information on the dangers of second and third-hand smoke. The department's Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health nurse offered breastfeeding education and provided supportive guidance regarding breastfeeding questions and concerns from the group.

Child Care Provider Training

Staff provided *Caring for Children with Anaphylaxis, Allergies and Seizures* training virtually to nine childcare providers. Caring for children with special health needs can be concerning for childcare providers. This training provides information on care planning for allergies, anaphylaxis, and seizures in the child population and helps to build confidence in being prepared to respond when emergent care is needed.

Staff provided *Medication Administration Skills Competency* training to seven childcare center providers. The training was completed by SCHED's child care nurse consultant and the public health nurse trained to assist in this program. The training provides information on the safe administration of medications to children in care, including a skills demonstration for eight different types of medication. For training credit, each participant completes a skills assessment within thirty days of the class. All seven participants successfully completed the skills assessment.

Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities, and partnerships to improve health

Discussion with UnityPoint Oncology Community Outreach Coordinator

Staff met with Teresa Pangan, UnityPoint Health – Trinity's new community outreach coordinator for oncology at UnityPoint to collaboration strategies. Ms. Pangan was sent information about virtual Quitline Iowa classes with the ultimate goal of increasing referrals of UnityPoint patients to the program. She is going to review existing UnityPoint workplace tobacco policies to ensure that they are comprehensive. If not, SCHED staff can help support the agency with creating and implementing these. Both plan to reach out to key groups and agencies that serve people in Scott County to offer connections and supportive services, especially to individuals that the tobacco industry has traditionally targeted and could feel the impact of the Food and Drug administration's menthol ban. Additionally, Ms. Pangan has joined the Tobacco Free Quad Cities (TFQC) coalition.

Quad Cities Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

Staff attended the June meeting of the Quad Cities Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (QCSAPC). Through the Genesis Foundation and a Regional and Local Impact (RALI) grant, the coalition will have \$10,000 to put on an event during Red Ribbon Week in October 2021. Planning for the event is underway. Center for Alcohol & Drug Services, Inc. (CADS) staff also provided updates on their work. For their Strategic Initiatives to Prevent Drug Overdoses (SIPDO) grant they currently have a “See the person, not the addiction” billboard, radio and social media campaign. They are also doing healthcare provider outreach and education focused on opioid prescribing. CADS’ staff had a meeting in June with management from locally owned Davenport food and beverage establishments regarding their substance use disorder workplace policies. Finally, they are working to connect with local police departments regarding law enforcement use of naloxone in the community.

Planning for Healthiest State Annual Walk Underway

Staff attended the first stakeholder planning session for the Healthiest State Initiative’s Annual Walk. The Healthiest State Annual Walk will take place on October 6, 2021, and stakeholders agreed to return to the “Walk more. Connect more.” theme with a new emphasis on mental health. The cities of Des Moines and Waterloo will be sponsored walk locations and there will be a contest for participating schools and communities. The goal is to have a registered walk in all 99 Iowa counties!

Discussion on Vaccine Outreach

Staff participated in a second meeting with community partners to discuss opportunities for vaccine outreach to individuals in the African American community. Partners in attendance included Rock Island County Health Department, Genesis Health System, UnityPoint Health – Trinity, Quad City Health Initiative, Community Health Care, and Churches United. Partners continue to offer COVID-19 vaccines at clinics, offsite locations, on a walk-in basis, and any time vaccine is requested by partners in the community. Uptake of vaccine continues to be lower in the African American community. The group will continue to message, work with partners, and provide vaccine access to encourage and make vaccine available to all.

Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health

Bloodborne Pathogen Protection for Scott County Employees

Staff worked with the managers of the Scott County Park Pool to assure all lifeguards had received their hepatitis B vaccines. The managers sent a list of the lifeguards with birth dates and staff was able to verify their records in Iowa’s Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS). The guards who were not in IRIS, were told to bring a copy of their immunization record to the managers. All were in compliance by the first day the pool opened.

Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public’s health

New Tattoo Establishment

Staff inspected a new tattoo establishment on Jersey Ridge Road in Davenport. This location is another beauty salon offering microblading. Microblading is a tattoo technique that can create the illusion of fuller eyebrows.

Outdoor Swimming Pool Inspections

All outdoor swimming pools have been inspected for the season except for one that is not yet ready for inspection. There are a few pool facilities that closed during the pandemic that have not yet reopened; some facilities took the opportunity while closed to do renovations.

Some outdoor pools are now using cellular technology to meet the IDPH requirement that pools provide access to an emergency telephone. Some of these calling devices are emergency call buttons and some are cellular phones. They offer 911 access without a service contract. The caller ID from the devices shows the location of the nearest cell tower rather than the actual location. Staff has informed these pools to post the actual physical address in the emergency calling instructions so that emergency response comes to the correct location.

Change in Ownership Results in Operating Without a License

Staff was informed of a local bar and grill that was operating in Davenport without an active food service establishment license. The facility had been purchased and the new owner thought that the license was transferrable. Staff inspected the facility and ordered the facility to close until the proper paperwork was submitted and licensing fees were paid.

Complaint Referred

Staff received a complaint regarding illegal landfilling and excavating close to a county road. The complainant was concerned that the excavating was undermining the county road. The concern was referred to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Scott County Engineer at Secondary Roads.

Temporary Events

Event	Number of Inspections	Status
Le Claire Food Truck Fight	14 mobile inspections	Violations corrected on site

Assurance

Assure an effective system that enables access to the individual services and care needed to be healthy

First Med Pharmacy Review

In May, one hundred and sixty-eight inmates received five hundred prescriptions. The use of generic medication was at ninety-eight percent with mental health medications at nearly one hundred percent generic.

HIV, Hepatitis C, and Sexually Transmitted Infections Education and Testing Offered

Staff provided education and HIV testing at the Pride Celebration and Juneteenth during June. In addition, outreach testing services for HIV and hepatitis C were provided at Center for Behavioral Health, Humility of Mary Shelter, Muscatine Center for Social Action, and New Horizons substance abuse treatment center (Muscatine). Walk-in HIV testing was also offered during the week of June 21-25 in observance of National HIV Testing Day and by appointment outside of sexual health clinic hours. Forty individuals were tested for HIV and fifteen for hepatitis C during outreach activities in June.

Outreach Clinics for COVID-19 Vaccine

Staff hosted outreach COVID-19 vaccine clinics at the Juneteenth celebration, St. Anthony's Church, Vera French's Carol Center, Humility Homes & Housing, and the First Presbyterian Church in the month of June. Twenty-five COVID-19 vaccinations were administered at these outreach clinics. In addition, one hundred twenty-six vaccinations were administered in-house for walk-in recipients.

Former Sears Store Mass Vaccination Site Demobilized

The mass vaccination clinic at the former Sears store has been completely demobilized. The lease agreement with the management company was through the end of June. Given the current vaccination demand, the larger clinic site was no longer viewed as being as beneficial as hosting smaller pop up clinics. The Health Department, along with other local community partners, is still providing vaccination on a walk in basis.

As part of the demobilization process, staff reached out to the local response agencies and health systems in regards to extra personal protective equipment (PPE) and supplies from the mass clinic. The goal of this effort was to identify agencies that could make use of some of the medical supplies that have a lower frequency of use at the Health Department. The majority of the supplies either came as part of the ancillary supply kits or were allocated to the clinic from the Scott County Emergency Management (SCEMA). A large amount of the remaining supplies were shared with community partners and the remaining were housed at the department's storage facility. As part of the demobilization, supplies and equipment were inventoried and added to SCEMA's salamander inventory system. This allows them to know what our department owns and could be put into use during future emergency response situations.

Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Program Activities

The I-Smile™ program has busy providing dental care coordination services to families in need. Barriers faced have included obtaining insurance coverage for anesthesia necessary for dental surgery and finding dental providers accepting Medicaid enrolled children.

I-Smile™ staff started dental office outreach to all offices in Scott County. Updated office information is collected along with distribution of department program materials and promotional items. Outreach helps identify offices that may be willing to accept children on a referral basis from I-Smile™.

Staff provided two breastfeeding classes during the month. One was provided virtually and the other was in-person. Six pregnant people attended the virtual class, and one attended the in-person class. Maternal Health services were provided to fifteen pregnant women in June.

The Quad Cities Breastfeeding Coalition received a grant to purchase books to help OB and pediatric office staff support breastfeeding families. Staff provided breastfeeding books and additional resources to several obstetrical (OB) and pediatric offices in Scott County.

Map of COVID-19 Vaccination Rates Compared to Social Vulnerability

Staff worked with Scott County GIS to develop a map of social vulnerability and COVID-19 vaccination levels in order to determine geographically where additional vaccine outreach

and/or clinics should be scheduled. The team is working to identify partners and opportunities within areas that may need additional focus. Social vulnerability is measured by the CDC and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry using United States Census. A fact sheet on the Social Vulnerability Index is Attachment 2 to this report.

Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce

NACCHO 360 Conference

Several staff and I had the opportunity to virtually attend the NACCHO 360 conference. The theme this year was, “Driving Public Health Forward, a Dynamic Response to Working Together”. Many of the sessions revolved around lessons learned from the pandemic, laws to protect local health organizations, workforce development, racial and health equity, and more.

At the session, *Driving Public Health Forward: Where Do We Go From Here?*, U.S. Surgeon General, Vivek Murthy, MD, encouraged public health workers to take time for themselves to fully recover from the trauma that they experienced during the pandemic. Public health has been engaged in an unprecedented response over the past eighteen months, which has stretched the public health workforce and reshaped the public health system. He also discussed gaps in the public health system exposed by the pandemic and how those gaps in some situations led to innovation in outreach strategies, service delivery models, technology, and data to promote the health of communities.

In the session, *Staffing Up: A New Tool for Determining Public Health Workforce Staffing Levels*, presenters provided information on what a sustainable governmental public health workforce looks like. The session aimed to provide insight on how to know what staffing levels a public health department needs in order to perform the foundational public health services. The speakers reported that since 2008, there has been a twenty percent decrease in the governmental public health workforce, which severely impacts staffing capacity and hinders the ability of health departments to address community needs and protect and promote health in the communities they serve. An initiative of the Public Health National Center for Innovations and the de Beaumont Foundation brought together public health experts to create a tool for governmental public health systems that can be used to inform decisions about how to staff health departments, advocate for increased funding, and more clearly communicate the value and role of public health workers to other fields.

Presenters from Salinas, California were featured in the session, *Sustaining a Youth Violence Prevention Initiative - What the Pandemic Reveals*. Evaluation results from this successful youth violence prevention program, Crime Prevention through Environmental Design, have shown significant declines in violent crime, assaults of youth, and the homicide rate, over the last decade. Presenters discussed their coalition and the implementation strategies that have helped with their success.

The final session of the conference, *Leading through Crisis in a Trauma-Informed, Resilience-Oriented Way*, focused on the importance of ensuring personal wellness for the workforce in order to maintain effective emergency response and sustain the response. This webinar built on some of the topics that have been presented by NACCHO, in partnership with The National

Council of Mental Wellbeing in a three part training series on the impact of anxiety, trauma, and crisis on personal and professional lives. This presentation provided leaders and supervisors with a brief overview on how anxiety can impact our general functioning in crisis, and different strategies to adapt one's leadership style to minimize the impact of anxiety on staff, particularly during this unprecedented time.

Training for Child Care Nurse Consultant Program

In order to assure that there is coverage for the Healthy Child Care Iowa Program and to serve child care programs that provide care for children outside of the 0-5 years of age population, the department invests in the training for one of its public health nurses. One of our new nurses recently successfully completed the Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants (CCNC) and will be able to fulfill this important role.

Education on Lead Exposure Impact

Staff participated in the webinar *Lead Exposure and Impacts on Early Brain Development* presented by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. The webinar highlighted why lead exposure is an ongoing problem in the United States and can result in detrimental effects on early brain development.

National Association of School Nurses Annual Conference

Staff attended the National Association of School Nurses annual school nurse conference virtually. Valuable topics covered included school nurse delegation, cultural inclusivity, innovation of school nursing practice, vaccine hesitancy and the school nurse's role, among others. Networking relationships between school nurses in Iowa and others serving in a similar role as a school health consultant were established.

Racial Trauma and Mental Health Webinar

Staff attended the webinar *What You Don't Know is Killing Us: Racial Trauma and Mental Health*. The webinar is the first of a three-part series. The speaker presented information regarding examples of racial trauma and how implicit bias and privilege perpetuates racial trauma.

Radiological Training and Exercise

In the event of a radiological emergency, environmental health staff have been asked to assist with the distribution of dosimeters. Dosimeters are used to monitor personnel working in the areas where radiation exposure may occur. Several staff participated in training regarding the distribution and education associated with dosimeters. Staff also participated in a tabletop (practice) drill and an evaluated Exelon Nuclear Power drill. Staff simulated the dosimetry training of police officers during an emergency. Overall, the exercise evaluated the county's ability to work through a radiological event that displaced specific populations of the county. Several agencies were in attendance and assisted with the response and movement of displaced people.

Education of Graduate Students on Foundations of Environmental Health

Staff spoke virtually with graduate students at Baylor University taking *Foundations of Environmental Health Science*. Discussions focused on Live Lead Free Quad Cities and the environmental health response to COVID-19 and the 2020 Derecho.

Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research, and continuous quality improvement

Demonstrations of Environmental Health Software

Environmental health staff attended three environmental health software demonstrations presented by different companies. Discussions were held with Scott County Information Technology (IT) regarding what staff liked best from the demonstrations and what they would like to have in a database for swimming pool/spa, tanning, and tattoo inspections. IT will be developing an application for staff use.

Region 5 Healthcare Coalition Discusses After Action Report

Staff attended the June Region 5 Healthcare Coalition meeting. The primary focus of this meeting was to discuss end of the fiscal year grant spending and to discuss mechanisms for creating an after action report (AAR) for the regional pandemic response. Creating an AAR of this size is not a typical task that the region performs, so a committee will be created to help assist with the planning and writing of the document.

BIX Planning

Staff has been actively engaged with BIX officials regarding race pandemic precautions and emergency planning. Discussions have revolved around the flow of the race, the timing of the elite runners, and the staggering of runners from the starting point.

Active Shooter Tabletop Exercise Planning

The Region 5 Healthcare Coalition continues to plan for a regional active shooter tabletop. The exercise will be broken down to the county level allowing local organizations to work together through the issues, or giving them the freedom to perform the exercise individually.

Build and maintain a strong organization infrastructure for public health

Iowa Public Health Association Strategic Planning

Iowa Public Health Association (IPHA) hosted a series of meetings with stakeholder groups to gain input on the association's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) throughout the month of June. Staff and I were able to participate in these sessions and the input will be used as IPHA begins to create its next strategic plan.

Agency Financial Reviews Conducted

As part of the department's monitoring of subcontracts, annual reviews are necessary. Agency Financial Reviews were conducted of the County Substance Abuse Prevention Services program at Center for Alcohol and Drug Services, Inc., Immunization Services program at Community Health Care, Inc., and the Care For Yourself and WISEWOMAN programs at Genesis Health System. No concerns were noted.

Meetings Attended by Staff

Access to Healthy Foods

Addie Rasmusson and Gretchen Hageman, Delta Dental

Bettendorf Healthy Hometown Steering Committee

Bettendorf Healthy Hometown: Healthcare Subcommittee

Bettendorf Wellness Committee
Bi-State Regional Trails Committee (2)
Community Health Assessment Focus Group Subcommittee (2)
Community Health Assessment Steering Committee (2)
Community Vaccine Planning Subgroup (2)
Darin Anderson, Diane Koster, and Andrea Schelin, Genesis Health System
Dave Mattison, Abraham's Machine Services
Elizabeth Kenney, Community Health Care
Environmental Protection Agency Food Recovery Challenge
Exelon Radiological Exercise
Exelon Radiological Exercise Dress Rehearsal
Food Contract Conference Call (2)
Food Rescue Partnership
Food Rescue Partnership Board
Genesis Lactation Consultants, Julie Cutler and Sue Page
IDPH Healthy Child Care Iowa CCNC Statewide Meeting
Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals
Iowa Environmental Health Association Conference Planning Committee
Iowa Healthiest State Initiative Annual Walk Planning Session
Iowa Hunger Coalition Annual Meeting
IPHA Congressional Planning Group
IPHA Social Media Community of Practice
IPHA SWOT Assessment
Jessica Valle, Community Health Care, Inc.
Katie McBurney, Iowa Department of Public Health
Kevin Babb and Katie Frost, PractiSynergy
Live Lead Free Quad Cities Coalition
Maternal Health Strategic Plan Focus Group
Physical Activity Policy Research and Evaluation Network (PAPREN) Transportation Workgroup
PAPREN Parks and Green Space Workgroup
PAPREN Workplace Workgroup
Public Health/Healthcare Focus Group Planning
Quad Cities Earth Coalition
Quad Cities Emergency Planning Commission
Quad Cities HEARTSafe Coalition
Quad Cities Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
River Way Steering Committee
Samantha Sweeney, Des Moines County Public Health
Shades of Success ISTEP group, Davenport Central High School
Teresa Pangan, UnityPoint - Trinity
Tobacco Free Quad Cities Coalition Community Education Workgroup
UnityPoint Health – Trinity Lactation Consultants Bethann Heidgerken and Rebecca Kerby
Waste Commission of Scott County
WISEWOMAN

Attachment 1: Reports from database on education the department provided to the community and service providers, media inquiries and press releases/conferences

Attachment 2: CDC Social Vulnerability Index Fact Sheet



Education provided between June 1, 2021 and June 30, 2021

Education To:	Presentation Date	Total Audience	Requesting Organization	Description
<i>Community</i>				
	6/17/2021	5	Safer Foundation	Oral Health and Tobacco Education
	6/28/2021	8	The Nest Program	Breastfeeding, Smoking, and Second/Third-Hand Smoking
<i>Service Providers</i>				
	6/3/2021	23	Genesis	Oral Care Project
	6/8/2021	7	Hand in Hand	Medication Administration
	6/16/2021	18	Genesis	Oral Care Project
	6/22/2021	9	Child Care Resource and Referral	Caring for Children with Allergies, Anaphylaxis, and Seizures

<i>Education To:</i>	<i>Presentation Date</i>	<i>Total Audience</i>	<i>Requesting Organization</i>	<i>Description</i>
	6/30/2021	23	Genesis	Oral Care Project



Media Inquiries between June 1, 2021 and June 30, 2021

<i>Request Date</i>	<i>Nature of Request</i>	<i>Request From</i>	<i>Newspaper</i>	<i>Radio</i>	<i>Television</i>
6/2/2021	CoVID-19	Television			WQAD-TV8
6/2/2021	CoVID-19	Television			WQAD-TV8
6/3/2021	CoVID-19	Television			KWQC-TV6
6/3/2021	CoVID-19	Television			KWQC-TV6
6/10/2021	CoVID-19	Television			WQAD-TV8
6/15/2021	CoVID-19	Newspaper	Quad City Times		
6/19/2021	CoVID-19	Television			KWQC-TV6
6/21/2021	COVID-19	Television			KWQC-TV6
6/22/2021	CoVID-19	Television			WQAD-TV8
6/22/2021	CoVID-19	Television			WQAD-TV8
6/29/2021	CoVID-19	Television			Other
6/30/2021	CoVID-19	Television			WHBF-TV4

CDC Social Vulnerability Index (CDC SVI)

A tool to identify socially vulnerable communities



CDC Social Vulnerability Index

What is social vulnerability?

Every community must prepare for and respond to hazardous events, whether a natural disaster like a tornado or disease outbreak, or a human-made event such as a harmful chemical spill. A number of factors, including poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing may weaken a community's ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in a disaster. These factors are known as **social vulnerability**.

What is CDC Social Vulnerability Index?

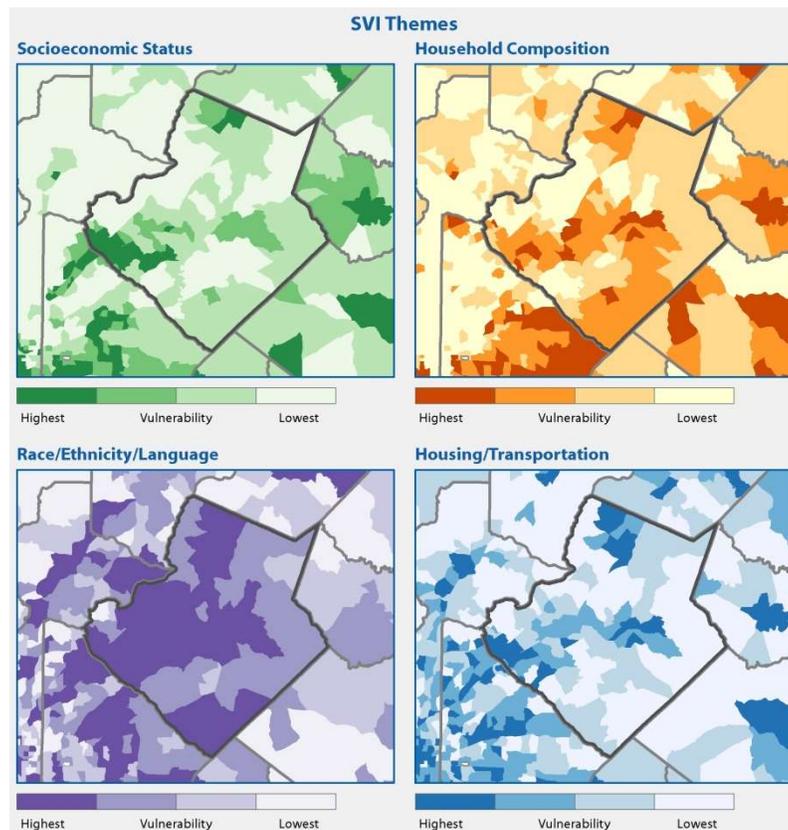
ATSDR's Geospatial Research, Analysis & Services Program (GRASP) created databases to help emergency response planners and public health officials identify and map communities that will most likely need support before, during, and after a hazardous event.

CDC SVI uses U.S. Census data to determine the social vulnerability of every census tract. Census tracts are subdivisions of counties for which the Census collects statistical data. CDC SVI ranks each tract on 15 social factors, including poverty, lack of vehicle access, and crowded housing, and groups them into four related themes. Maps of the four themes are shown in the figure below. Each tract receives a separate ranking for each of the four themes as well as an overall ranking.



Hurricane Sandy - Breezy Point, NY

Photographer – Pauline Tran



How can CDC SVI help communities be better prepared?

CDC SVI can help public health officials and local planners better prepare for and respond to emergency events like hurricanes, disease outbreaks, or exposure to dangerous chemicals.

CDC SVI databases and maps can be used to:

- Estimate the amount of needed supplies like food, water, medicine, and bedding.
- Help decide how many emergency personnel are required to assist people.
- Identify areas in need of emergency shelters.
- Plan the best way to evacuate people, accounting for those who have special needs, such as people without vehicles, the elderly, or people who do not understand English well.
- Identify communities that will need continued support to recover following an emergency or natural disaster.

Maps show the range of vulnerability in Gwinnett County, Georgia for the four themes.

For more information, please contact the CDC SVI Coordinator (svi_coordinator@cdc.gov).



Geospatial Research Analysis, and Services Program (GRASP)
Division of Toxicology and Human Health Sciences, ATSDR



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry