

**Emergency Preparedness and Response and Epidemiology
June 2025 Board of Health Updates**

Epidemiology:

- Outbreaks since the last BOH meeting report:
 - We investigated 15 outbreaks in school, preschool, or child care settings, 3 outbreaks in long-term care facilities, and 3 outbreaks in other priority settings.
- Data:
 - We continue to update the Communicable Disease Dashboard available at <https://www.douglas.co.us/health-department/disease-surveillance/communicable-diseases/communicable-disease-data-dashboard/>.
 - We are in the process of finalizing a public-facing dashboard for vital records data, including birth and death data.
 - We have developed an internal weekly report on communicable diseases investigated to identify trends and compare illness incidence to 2024.
 - We are exploring the creation of other dashboards to ensure public access to data to allow residents to make informed decisions and better understand the health of our community.
- Disease Updates:
 - Viral respiratory disease cases (flu, COVID, and RSV) have dropped significantly for the past 2-3 months.
 - While Douglas County has not had any confirmed measles cases, we have participated in contact follow-up for exposed residents and continue to prepare for a measles response. The Epi team met with DCSD nursing services staff to discuss measles response planning for the school setting.
- Training:
 - Epidemiologists continue to participate in training activities to increase our skill set and provide residents with the best possible service and education. Training topics this quarter have included, electronic communication accessibility, the use of AI in public health, and public health communications.
 - We had an epidemiologist represent our county at a Transforming Informatics Convening hosted and funded by NACCHO.
 - All epidemiologists attended the 2025 Colorado Epidemiology Conference in Colorado Springs.
- Outreach:
 - All epidemiologists participated in a Highlands Ranch Water site visit with the CDPHE Wastewater Surveillance epidemiology team.
 - In anticipation of our upcoming move to Englewood, we are coordinating with Public Affairs for communicating the move to residents and partners.

EPR:

- Planning and Deliverables:
 - EPR has been wrapping up PHEP and CRI deliverables for this year, including participation in tabletop exercises with state and regional partners.
 - EPR is also finalizing the PHEOP and coordinating with OEM to ensure plans are in alignment with County plans.
 - Staff are putting together a multi-year training and exercise plan to enhance the capabilities of the department as a whole for emergency responses.

EPR and Epi Joint Activities:

- Training:
 - Under the direction of EPR, the Epi and EPR teams have conducted ICS implementation training using the annual Health Department Picnic.
 - Staff from EPR/Epi and EH attended the annual One Health and Zoonosis Conference virtually to learn about the latest updates on diseases transmissible to humans from animals.
- Partnership Building:
 - Epi and EPR staff met with their counterparts throughout Colorado to discuss collaboration in the context of a hypothetical measles exposure at an LPHA Coordinated Response Workshop hosted by Arapahoe County.
- Strategic Planning:
 - EPR and Epi staff also met to define goals and strategic plans for the coming year. The teams collaborated to write a summary of goals and key plans as we continue to refine our workflows and improve the services we provide to our residents.