



2019

San Juan Public Health

ANNUAL REPORT

San Juan Public Health



Vital Records • WIC • Environment
www.sanjuanpublichealth.org

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San Juan
Public
Health
Services
impact
your life?

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The:

- Food we eat
- Water we drink
- Diseases we catch
- Air we breathe

Director's Message

I think it is safe to say 2020 has not been the year any of us expected. With everything that has happened, it feels like we have had a decade's worth of newsworthy and challenging events packed into just the last few months. Almost overnight the threat of COVID-19 transformed our routines, communities, businesses & economy, and permeated almost every aspect of our lives.

Still, despite the challenges we are facing, I am optimistic about our future. If there is one thing our shared history has proven again and again, it is that the tough people of this region, and San Juan County residents in particular, can rise together to meet any challenge, face any trial, and overcome any obstacle.

While we may disagree, debate, and opine day to day, when life's storms strike we work together to repair, rebuild, lift, and love.

As we look back on 2019 (Yes, that was before COVID-19 hit the area!) through this report, we remind everyone in our community that our unity of purpose is deep and enduring. At San Juan Public Health, we are driven by our passion for serving our community, and our commitment to helping each individual improve their health, well-being and prepare to withstand whatever difficult times life brings.

With that, it is my pleasure, as the director of the San Juan County Health Department, to present you with our 2019 Annual Report. I encourage you to visit our website at sanjuanpublichealth.org to learn more about our organization and the services we provide.

I would also like to thank the San Juan County Board of Health, our staff, our community partners, and supportive residents that remain committed to our mission to promote and protect healthy people and healthy communities.

Sincerely,
Kirk Bengé
Executive Director

Introduction

We take seriously our responsibility to serve our community in the most effective and responsible way possible.

The Daily Impact of Public Health

The responsibilities that we have as Public Health Professionals can best be described in the 10 essential public health services which are:

1. Monitor community health status to identify community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. Assure a competent public health and personal health care workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

Throughout this report you will see examples of how public health affects us each and every day. You will notice examples of the 10 essential services in every service we perform. Thank you for taking the time to study this report.

Board of Health

The San Juan Public Health board is comprised of six volunteers who meet regularly to discuss Public Health issues, adopt regulations and set fees charged for services.



Kd Perkins
Chairman of the Board



Suzette Morris
Vice Chairman



Debbie Benally
Board Member



Willie Greyeyes (Commissioner)
Board member



Gary Suttlemyre
Board Member



Lois Young
Board Member



Dr. Michael Nielson, DO
Medical Director

Department Staff

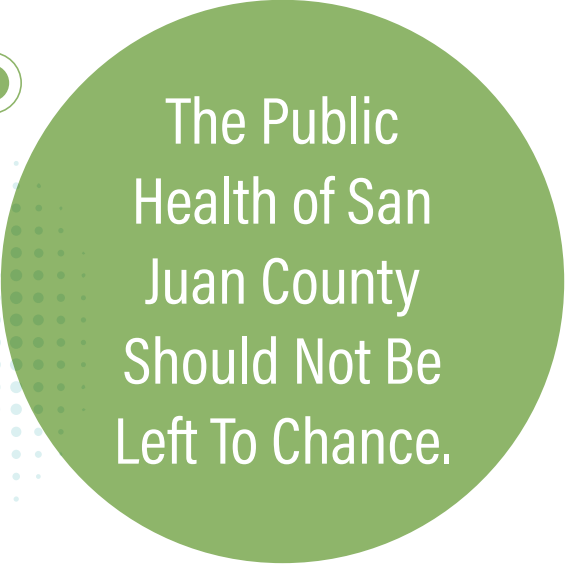
San Juan Public Health would like to recognize and thank our devoted staff for their service, commitment, and dedication as they strive to make San Juan County a healthy place to live.

Our devoted staff work continuously to find innovative solutions to complex issues. Our employees take pride in the work they do to better the lives of our citizenry; to empower individuals to make healthy decisions, to protect the health of all county residents, and to work with local leaders to promote healthy policies. Thank you for your integrity and your commitment to serving your neighbors and community members.

We would also like to recognize and thank the members of our team who have moved on to other opportunities. Namely, Katrina Lyman, former Business Manager. Thank you for your contribution and service. We wish you luck in your future endeavors.



Public Health
and Safety
are our Highest
Priorities



The Public
Health of San
Juan County
Should Not Be
Left To Chance.



Kirk Benge, MPH
Executive Director



Brittney Carlson, RN
Nursing Director



Rick Meyer
Environmental Health Director



Kelly Vess
Business Manager



Katie Knight, RN
WIC Director



Ronnie Nieves
Emergency Preparedness



RueShane Jim
*Receptionist
Tobacco Compliance*



Angela Kunz, RN
Public Health Nurse



Michael Moulton
Health Education Director



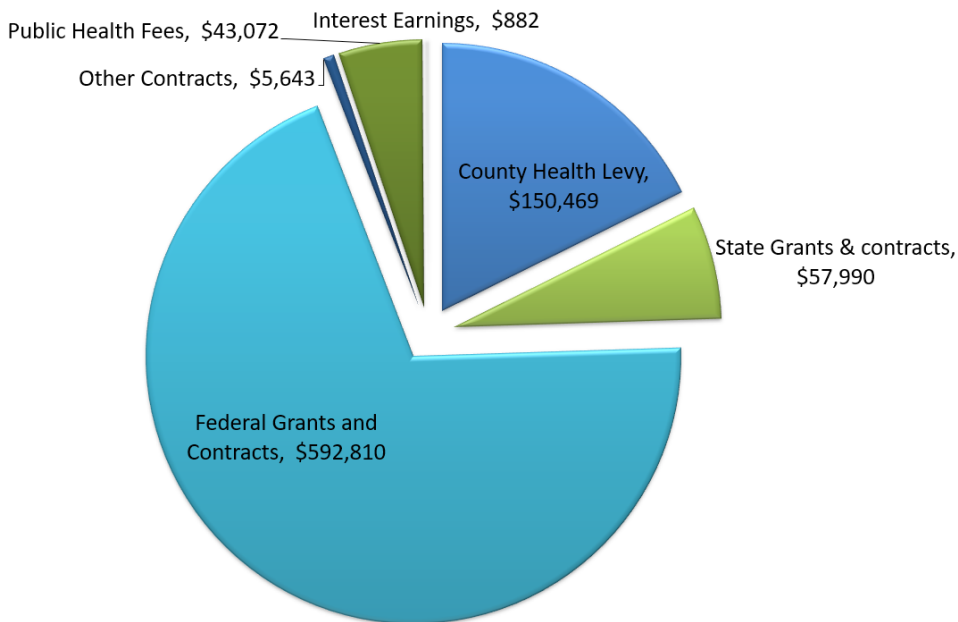
Cheyenne Starkey
Receptionist/Car Seat Safety



Kelsey Homedew, RN
Public Health Nurse



Revenue FY 2019



69.7%

The majority of San Juan Public Health funds come from Federal Contracts

6.8%

San Juan Public Health has several contracts funded by the State of Utah

17.7%

The County Health Levy funds a portion of Public Health Services

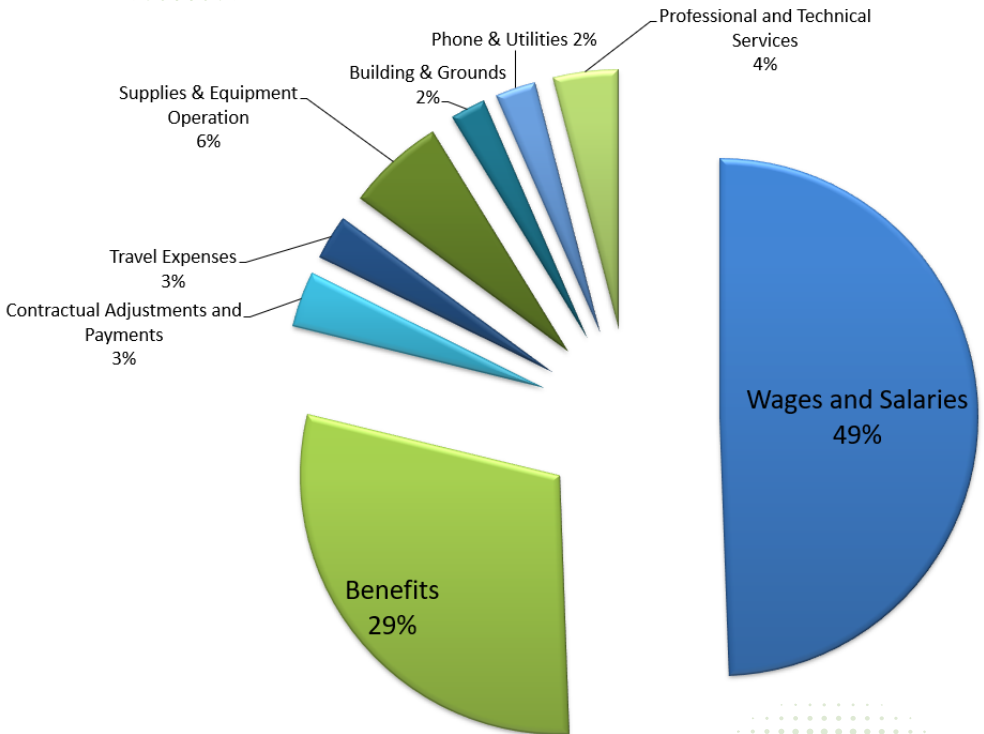
5.1%

Public Health Fees include money collected for direct services such as vital records and various permits and inspections

0.7%

Other Contracts with agencies who pass through funds to San Juan Public Health for specific health services rendered

Expenditures FY 2019



Water Quality



Drinking Water

San Juan Public Health's Environmental Director works with the State of Utah and the Department of Environmental Quality to inspect drinking water systems at public campgrounds, schools and municipalities in San Juan County ensuring regulations are followed and safeguarding the health of residents and visitors alike.



Waste Water

All septic waste water systems in San Juan County are inspected and permitted by San Juan Public Health. In 2019 fiscal year the Environmental department inspected twenty-five septic systems and six failed septic systems were replaced. In addition to inspections, records of septic systems within the county are maintained and provided to residents upon request.



Water Quality

One of the many responsibilities of San Juan Public Health is monitoring water quality issues associated with specific public health concerns. Lakes, rivers, streams, ground water, standing water, surface water, etc. are monitored for possible problems associated with E. Coli, Mercury, Harmful Algal Blooms and other public health concerns.



Environmental Quality



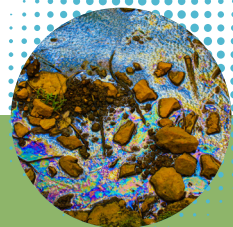
Air Quality

San Juan Public Health investigates and monitors air quality issues such as asbestos, lead based paint, smoke, dust, and other air quality concerns. In 2019 fiscal year there was one lead based paint investigation conducted in San Juan County by the Environmental Health Director.



Waste Management

In an effort to protect the public and the environment from exposure to contamination caused by the improper treatment, storage and disposal of waste, San Juan Public Health ensures compliance with waste management regulations including, hazardous waste, radiation control, solid waste, used oil and used tires.

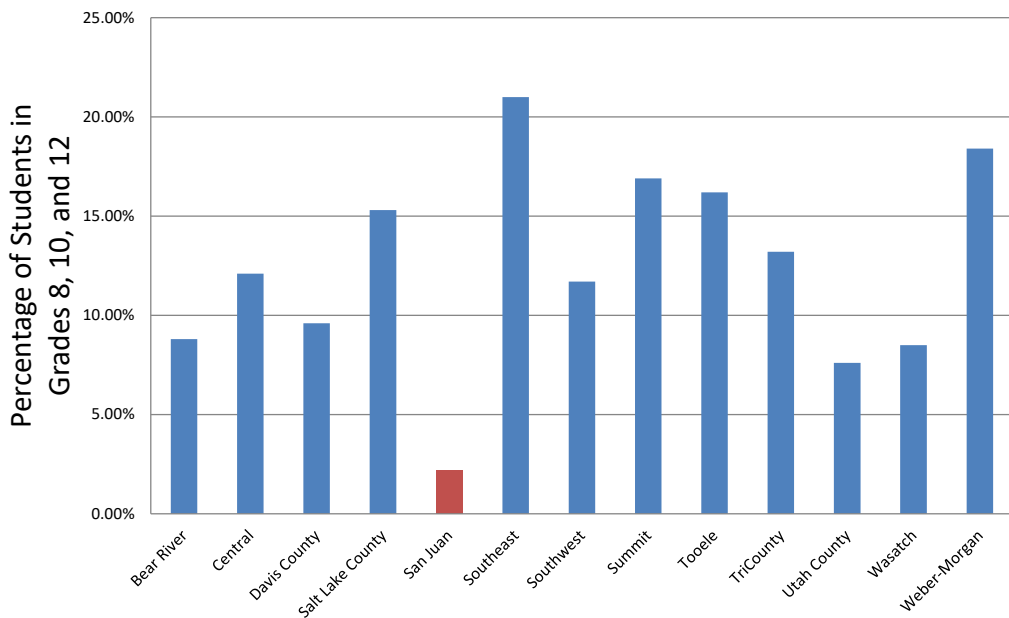


Response and Remediation

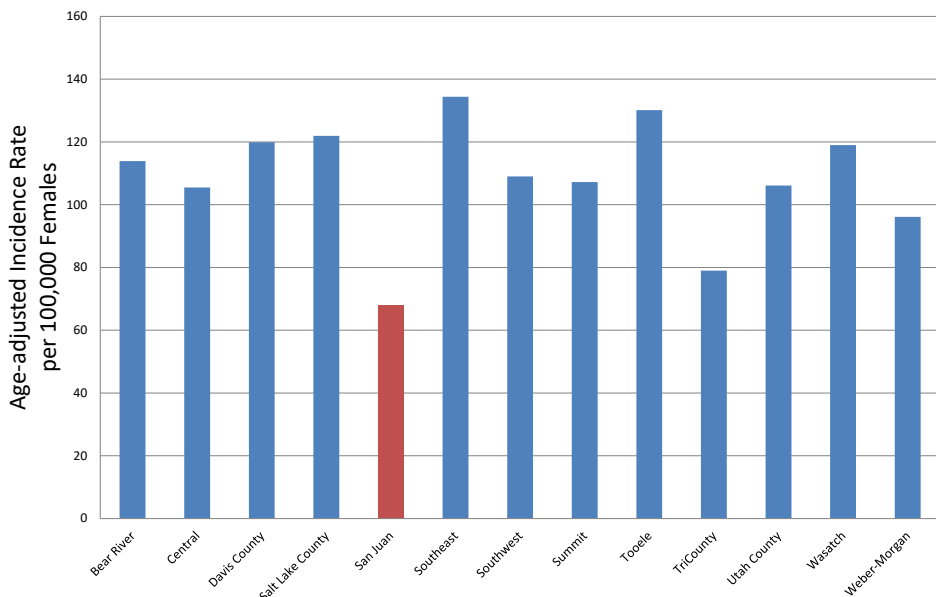
San Juan Public Health is charged with protecting the public health of San Juan County's environment through investigating chemically contaminated sites to ensure proper cleanup, and inspecting underground storage tanks to ensure proper use.

Public Health Snapshot

Electronic Cigarettes Current Use by Local Health District Utah Students in Grades 8, 10, and 12, 2019

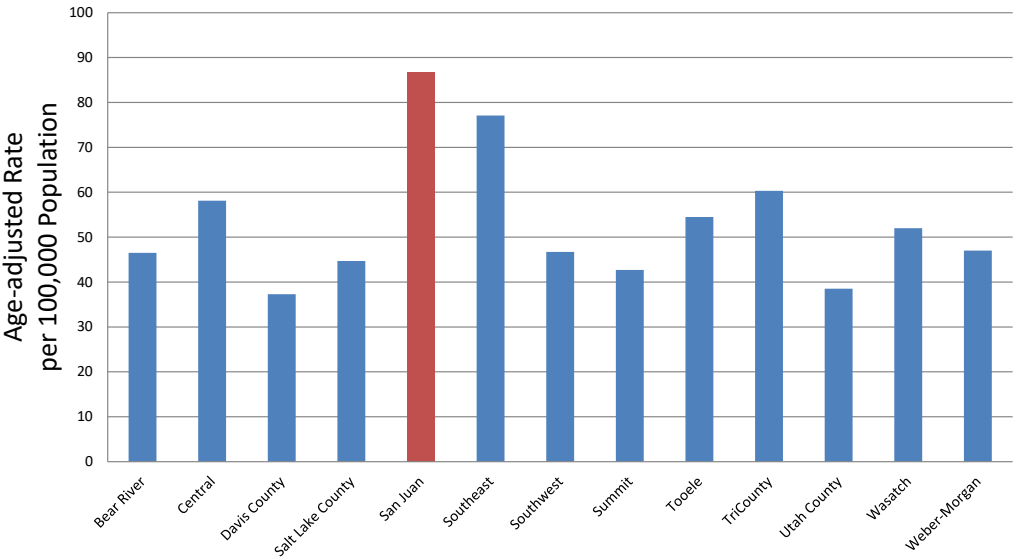


Breast Cancer Incidence Rate by Local Health District, Utah, 2013-2015

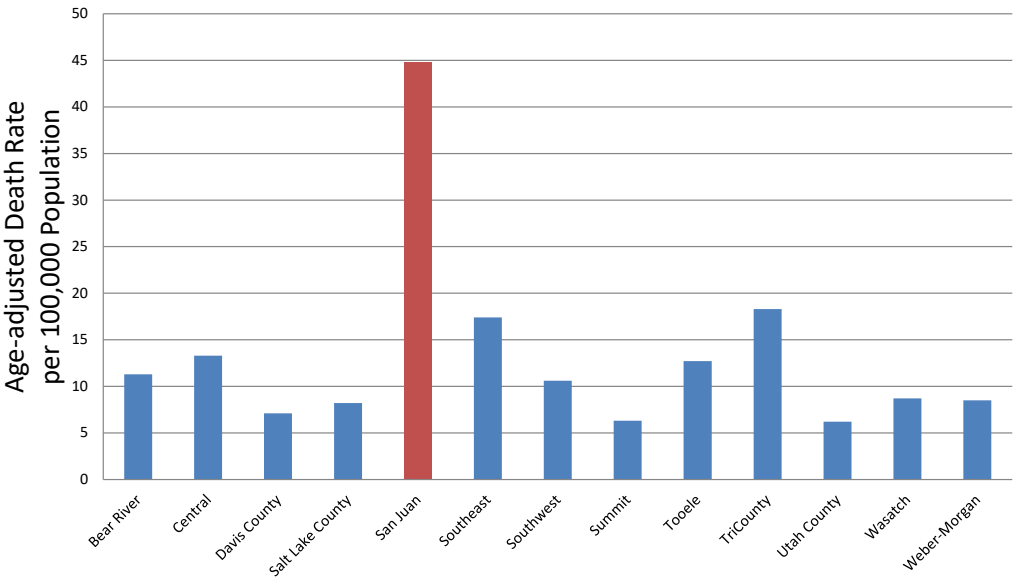


*Data Source: Utah's Public Health Data Resource IBIS system

**Unintentional Injury Death Rates
by Local Health District, Utah, 2014-2018**

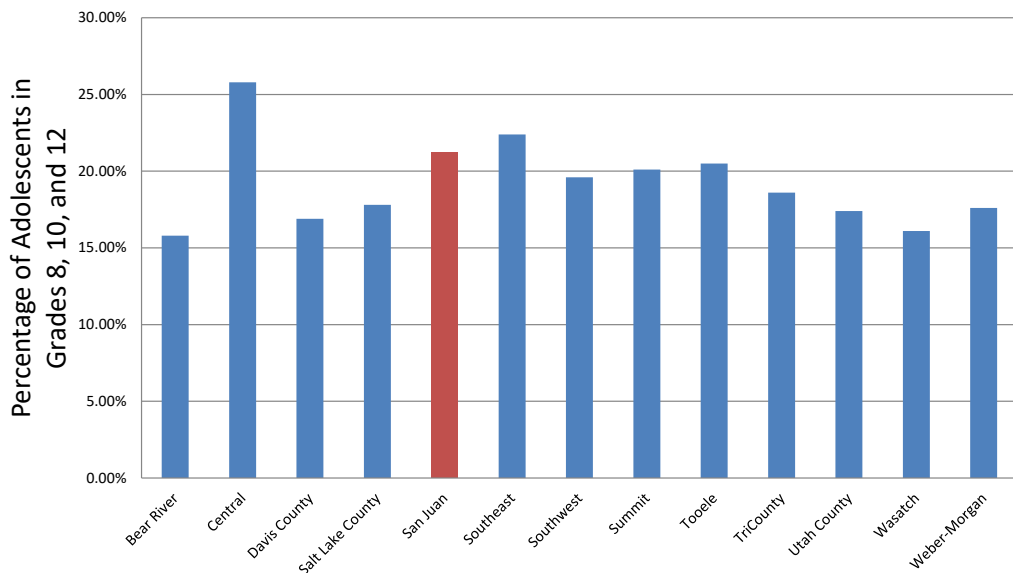


**Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Deaths
by Local Health District, Utah, 2014-2018**

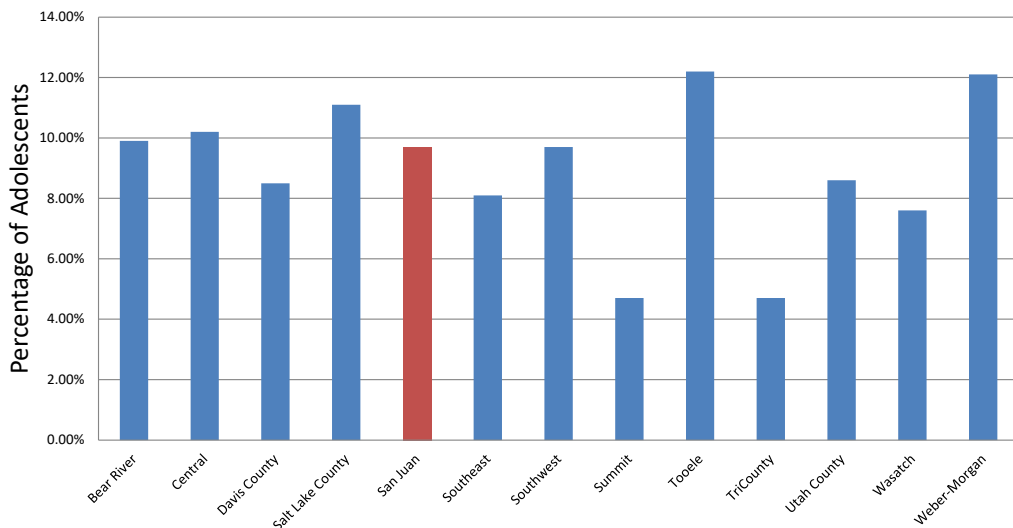


Public Health Snapshot

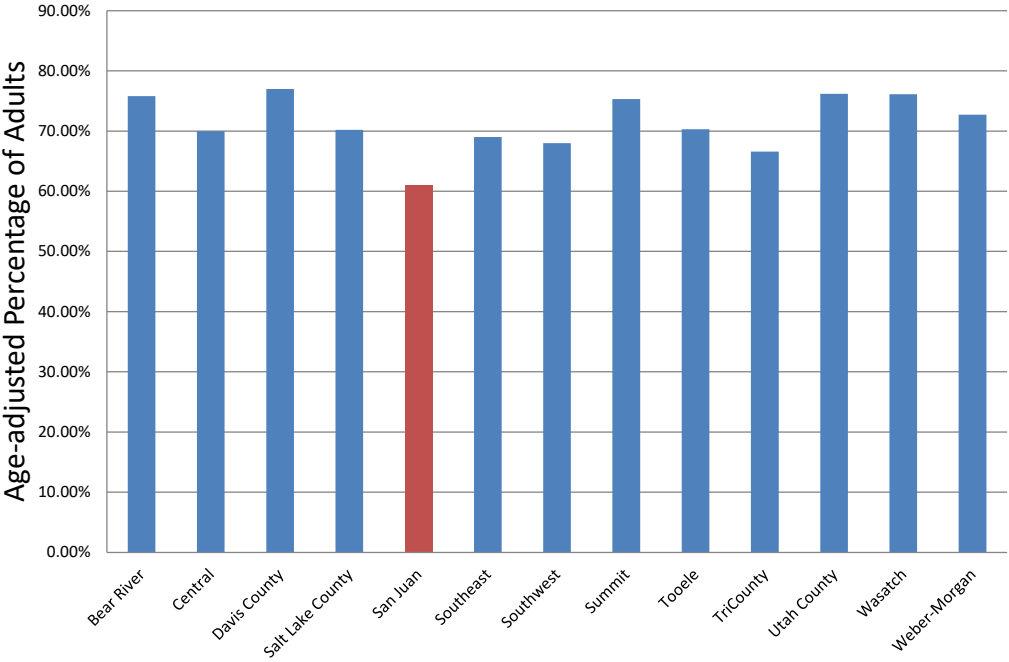
**Recommended Physical Activity by Local Health District
Utah Youth Grades 8, 10, and 12, 2019**



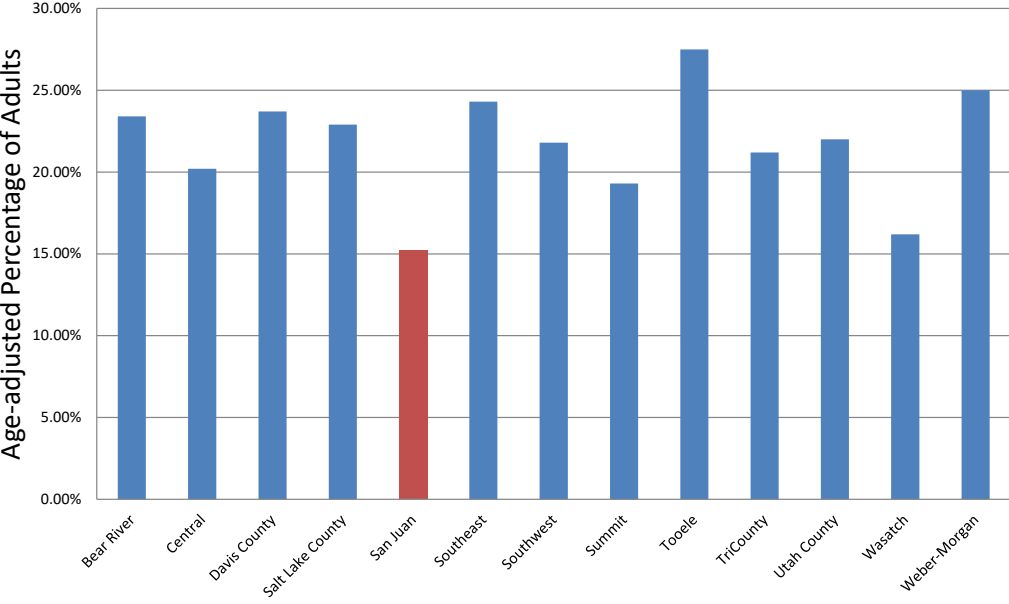
**Percentage of Adolescents Who Were Obese by Local Health District
Grades 8, 10, and 12, Utah, 2019**



Dental Visit in the Past Year by Local Health District, Utah 2018



Depression Prevalence by Local Health District, Utah, 2016-2018



Food Service

Protecting the citizens and visitors of San Juan County by enforcing food safety regulations is a primary role of San Juan Public Health.

During 2019 our Environmental Health Department conducted 41 food service inspections throughout the county. These inspections are performed regularly to prevent exposure to food born illness and enhance food safety for the public.

Food Handler and Food Service Permits

To ensure that food is handled appropriately for the safety of the public, San Juan Public Health requires all individuals preparing, serving, or handling food in or around a food service establishment or mobile food unit (whether the individuals are compensated or not) to receive adequate food service training, either as a certified food handler or as a certified food safety manager. In 2019 fiscal year, 171 persons obtained a Food Handler Permit in person and 326 persons obtained one online. Food Handler Permits are obtained by taking an approved Utah Food Handler Training course. There are some approved on-line vendors for taking the course and San Juan Public Health offers live trainings.





Health Inspections



The Environmental Health Director regularly inspects day-care facilities, swimming pools, Hotels and Motels to protect the public from possible health hazards.

Public swimming pools and hot-tubs are inspected monthly. Residential and commercial day care facilities are inspected and issued permits. Regular inspections are conducted at hotels and motels. And anyone wishing to operate body-art, cosmetology, massage or tanning facilities in San Juan County are subject to inspection by and must have a permit from the health department.

These permits and regular inspections help ensure that our public is safe and protected from diseases and hazardous agents commonly spread in such facilities.

Nursing Services



1

Blanding

Our Blanding WIC clinic is open every Tuesday from 8:30 AM to 11:30 PM and 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. This is our busiest clinic and clients are seen on a first come, first serve basis.

2

Montezuma Creek

This WIC outreach clinic is operated from a building owned by San Juan Foundation in Montezuma Creek. Walk-in WIC services are available two days each month.

3

Monticello

The WIC outreach clinic in Monticello is located on the lower level of the San Juan Clinic Monticello. Appointments for participants are scheduled two days per month as needed.

4

Monument Valley

The WIC outreach clinic in Monument Valley schedules appointments one day each month.

Home Visiting

Our nurses were specially trained by John Hopkin's University to provide home visiting services to parents and children up to age three. During each visit parents receive training and resources to help them be the best parent's they can be. In 2019 San Juan Public Health nurses taught 117 home visiting lessons.



Community Breastfeeding Classes

The nurses of San Juan Public Health received lactation specialist training. We have offered community breastfeeding classes and 28 people have participated.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

WIC is a nutrition program that helps families learn about healthy eating through nutrition education, counseling, nutritious foods, and help accessing health care. These services are provided to low-income women, infants, and children. In 2019 we served 109 women, 124 infants (under 1 year old), and 217 children (1-5 years old) at our four WIC clinic locations.

Perinatal Mood Disorders

Women who are pregnant or have delivered a baby within the past two years are at risk of developing perinatal mood disorders. In an effort to improve the health and well being of our community we screened 131 women for Perinatal Mood Disorders and mailed informational packets to all of the women screened.

Vital Records

Birth Certificates issued ~ 322

Death Certificate issued ~ 98

Marriage and Divorce Certificates issued ~ 2

* Data gathered from Utah's Vital Records system.

Emergency Preparedness

Emergencies may be caused by acts of nature such as earthquakes or disease outbreaks, accidents like hazardous chemical spills, or acts of violence such as bioterrorism.

These incidents usually have a serious impact on public health and typically occur without warning. San Juan Public Health aims to reduce the negative impact of these emergencies.

Our goal is to prevent harm, and when that is not possible, to limit the damages to you

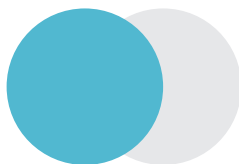
and your family. Our emergency planning and preparation begins with local partners, such as the San Juan County Office of Emergency Management, hospitals, tribes and local health care providers.

In the event of an emergency that affects the health of our community, our responsibility is to:

- Identify ways to reduce health risks, including the use of vaccinations and medications;
- Investigate and work to stop the spread of com-

municable diseases; like COVID-19

- Provide local health care providers with urgent health information, treatment guidelines and access to vaccinations and medications;
- Communicate important health information and advice to the public;
- Assist agencies in hazardous material spills; and
- Help state and federal agencies monitor air, food and water supplies to ensure they are safe.



- In 2019 we participated in a full-scale exercise with local hospitals. This exercise was named operation contagion. We were able to set up our point of dispensing and practice dispensing medication. This training proved valuable as we now gear up in preparation of a potential COVID-19 vaccine distribution in late 2020 or early 2021.

Health Education

During 2019 San Juan Public Health's Health Educators performed the following services for our county:

- Conducted 40 tobacco compliance checks.
- Provided 8 car seats with training and proper use instructions.
- 175 gun safety locks were distributed.
- Trained 1 staff member as a certified car seat technician.
- Trained 2 staff members in Suicide Prevention.
- Set up informational displays and/or health education booths at 9 health fairs or community events.
- Health Promotion and Education efforts were placed on hold from mid-May through mid-Aug. due to a change in workforce.
- Upon being added to the workforce in mid-August, Mike Moulton hit the ground running and taking charge of our health education and promotion efforts. Some of which include collaboration with SafeKids Utah Coalition, Zero Suicide Coalition, Together for Life (UHSO) Rural Seat Belt Initiative, The San Juan County Prevention Action Collaboration Coalition.

Follow us on Facebook!

[@sanjuanpublichealth](https://www.facebook.com/sanjuanpublichealth)

Health Education
enhances the
quality of life for
all people.





Friends of Public Health Award

San Juan County Prevention Action Collaboration (SJCPAC) Coalition

Thank you for your work in strengthening our local youth and their families with substance abuse and suicide prevention.



Who Influences Your Health?

This award recognizes outstanding, significant and innovative activities and accomplishments by an individual, agency or other entity in furthering the principles of Public Health and the mission of San Juan Public Health.

Eligibility is open to all individuals and organizations, serving San Juan County, who have advanced the Mission of San Juan Public Health.



Generalized criteria to be considered include the following:

- Improve the health status of the community
- Address specific health service needs for a vulnerable population
- Increase public awareness of health programs or problems
- Demonstrate an ongoing effort resulting in long term outcomes to eliminate disease, suffering, or disability, and improve the health of the community
- Develop a creative service or program in cooperation with public health that enhances the health of the community



SAN JUAN PUBLIC HEALTH

Our mission is to protect and promote the health of all San Juan County residents by preventing illness and injury, establishing and promoting healthy environments, advocating policy based on scientific knowledge of issues relating to public health, promoting services which address personal health and well-being, informing and educating the community regarding issues of public health, and providing a committed, educated and effective public health professional work force.

Kirk Bengé,
Health Officer

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