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**we’re all in this Together!**
In the following pages you have the opportunity to read about some of the great work done by Eastern Idaho Public Health (EIPH) staff during Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021 (July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021). The worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, which began with the first case in Idaho on March 13, 2020, significantly impacted EIPH, not just with our response role, but the way in which we continued to provide service delivery to ensure residents of Eastern Idaho could access needed public health services. While it is nearly impossible to share every detail of our COVID-19 public health response efforts, in the following pages you can read about some of the highlights of our COVID-19 response as well as a variety of other public health services in our region.

Every day in the work we do, EIPH strives towards our goal of having "Healthy People in Healthy Communities." All of the work we do focuses on:

**PREVENTING**
disease, disability, and premature death;

**PROMOTING**
healthy lifestyles; and

**PROTECTING**
the health and quality of our environment.

Much has changed in Eastern Idaho since 1970 when Idaho’s Public Health Districts were first established by the Idaho Legislature. However, one thing that remains unchanged is the dedication of EIPH’s professional, compassionate, and caring staff that is committed to providing people with information they need to help them make healthy choices and protect their health and delivering high-quality and innovative public health services.

More detailed information about all of EIPH’s services and programs is available on our website. And, our staff is always ready and willing to answer questions and provide more information about our services. Stop by one of our offices or give us a call to learn more.
BOARD OF HEALTH
In FY2021, after many dedicated years of service to Eastern Idaho Public Health and the residents of our eight-county health district, three members of the EIPH Board retired from public service: Commissioners Miller and Miner, and Dr. Nelson.

In recent times, there has been no larger public health challenge than the COVID-19 pandemic. In FY 2020 and 2021, EIPH’s current and retired board members fully committed their time and effort to help guide EIPH’s response to the pandemic -- all with a goal of fulfilling our mission of reducing disease, disability, and death. For this, EIPH would like to thank them for their service as well as their unwavering commitment to public health and the residents of Eastern Idaho.

Thank You

Lee Miller
Fremont County
Years of Service: 2011-2020

Ken Miner
Lemhi County
Years of Service: 2015-2020

Barbara Nelson, MD
Physician Representative
Years of Service: 2006-2020
ABOUT PUBLIC HEALTH

Ever wonder what public health is all about? Public Health is the science of protecting and improving the health of people and their communities. Overall, public health is concerned with protecting the health of entire populations. Public health professionals try to prevent problems from happening or recurring through implementing educational programs, recommending policies, and administering services.

Idaho’s seven Public Health Districts were established in 1970 under Chapter 4, Title 39, Idaho Code. They were created to ensure essential public health services are made available to protect the health of all citizens of the State—no matter the size of their county population. Eastern Idaho Public Health, also known as Health District 7 in Idaho Statute, covers eight counties: Bonneville, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Madison, Jefferson, Lehmi, and Teton. We have offices in each of our eight counties and typically employ 110 permanent employees; however, in Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021, we hired over 75 temporary employees to assist in our response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each of Idaho’s Health Districts is locally controlled and governed by a local Board of Health. They are not state agencies, nor part of any state department. They are recognized much the same as other single purpose districts. Idaho Code stipulates that Public Health Districts provide the basic services of public health education, physical health, environmental health, and health administration. However, they are not restricted to solely these services. Each Board of Health defines the public health services to be offered in its district based on the particular needs of the local populations served.

Idaho’s Public Health Districts share the following goals to assure healthy communities:

- Monitor health status and understand health issues.
- Protect people from health problems and health hazards.
- Enforce public health laws and regulations.
- Ensure access to preventive health services.

Keep reading to learn how we work towards accomplishing these goals.

PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.
In FY2021, EIPH's original budget was $8,072,423; however, it was adjusted up for the anticipated cost of EIPH’s COVID-19 response. Revenues in the Clinical Services and Environmental Health Divisions exceeded budget due to higher than anticipated volume in services delivered. In addition, a major impact on revenue was the receipt of donations as well as federal funding for our COVID-19 response in advance of expenditures. This work carried over into FY2022 so some of the revenue was carried over into the new fiscal year as well to cover the expenditures.
During Idaho’s 2021 Legislative Session, two bills were passed that will change the authority and funding structure of local public health districts.

**SENATE BILL 1060 - PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS**

As outlined in Idaho Code §39-414 (2), Powers and Duties of District Board, “The District Board of Health shall have and may exercise the following powers and duties...to do all things required for the preservation and protection of the public health and preventive health.” As local public health districts and their respective Boards of Health navigated the COVID-19 pandemic, some Boards of Health issued public health orders implementing public health mitigation strategies to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities. Senate Bill 1060 added to §39-414 (2) the following:

> An order of a district board of health will take effect immediately. However, notwithstanding the provisions of this sub section, if an order applies to all persons in a county or a public health district, the board of county commissioners within each affected county, after consulting with the district board of health, will determine by resolution whether or not to approve the order within county limits within seven (7) days of the date of the order. If the board of county commissioners approves the order, then the order will take effect immediately for a period of thirty (30) days. Thereafter, the order may be extended, amended, or modified and reimposed for thirty (30) day periods, subject to approval by the board of county commissioners.

In addition, an infraction (rather than a misdemeanor) for violation of a public health order was added to Idaho Code §39-419 (4), which now reads:

> Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2) of this section, if an order is applicable to all persons in a county or a public health district, then a person who willfully violates such order is guilty of an infraction punishable by a fine of fifty dollars ($50.00). No court costs or fees apply to such infraction.

**HOUSE BILL 316 - PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICTS, AID**

For decades, Idaho’s local public health districts have requested and received State General Fund appropriations to be used to match funds contributed by the counties for the maintenance and operation of district health departments. This will change in 2022 due to the passage of House Bill 316 which created a new section of Idaho Code, §39-424A. Effective March 1, 2022, Idaho’s counties will be responsible for providing annual aid to the public health districts, which should not be less than the amount appropriated to the public health districts by the Legislature in state fiscal year 2021. For EIPH, our FY2021 State General Fund appropriation was $1,150,400. EIPH did receive eight months’ of State General Fund appropriation for FY 2022; however, beginning with FY2023 (July, 2022), the Counties will be fully responsible for the additional aid to the public health districts.

The impetus behind this change was the State’s desire to have the Counties help fund the added cost of Medicaid expansion in Idaho from anticipated savings to the Counties’ Indigent Fund since more people will have health insurance coverage. While this may be a positive move for the majority of Idaho’s 44 counties, it is estimated that seven of the eight counties in EIPH’s jurisdiction will not realize the needed savings in their Indigent Fund programs to offset the additional aid they must provide EIPH. Therefore, it may result in a net cost increase for the counties. The true financial outcome of the passage of this bill may not be known for years after its full implementation; however, it does create a concern for EIPH whether long-term stable funding for local public health will be able to be maintained. Time will tell.
SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 illness was first detected in Idaho on March 13, 2020. EIPH's first case was detected on March 14, 2020. EIPH's Board of Health and staff have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic to provide information and guidance to the public, data for situational awareness, education to individuals testing positive for COVID-19 and their close contacts, and COVID-19 vaccines to those who want them.

28,401 cases of COVID-19 in EIPH's region that staff have investigated from 3/14/20 to 6/30/21
COVID-19 PANDEMIC

We can all say without question, 2020 and 2021 have been years unlike any other most of us have ever experienced before and truly hope that we don't experience again. A new coronavirus--the virus that causes COVID-19 illness--was first detected in December of 2019 in China. The World Health Organization declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on January 30, 2020, and later declared a pandemic on March 11, 2020. Idaho experienced it's first confirmed case of COVID-19 on March 13, 2020, with the first case being identified in EIPH's region the following day, March 14, 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic has put the work of public health front and center as we were tasked with mounting a public health response. Throughout the pandemic, EIPH has strived to continue our mission of promoting healthy lifestyles as well as preventing disease, disability, and death. Below are highlights of EIPH's response efforts starting in February, 2020:

- Initiated EIPH's Incident Command structure
- Public messaging to provide people with information (press releases, information on website, and Facebook)
- Established a call center and e-mail address for the public to contact EIPH with questions
- Shared guidance to help people prepare for the spread of COVID-19
- Provided information and held briefings with elected officials and other stakeholders
- Conducted epidemiological investigations for COVID-19 cases and provided guidance to case contacts
- Worked with County Emergency Operations Centers and response partners in each of our eight counties
- Coordinated with Idaho Office of Emergency Management (state and local reps) to fulfill orders from healthcare providers and long term care facilities for Personal Protective Equipment
- Helped facilitate testing, which was extremely limited in Idaho in the early months of the pandemic, through the Idaho Bureau of Laboratories
- Increased frequency of EIPH Board of Health meetings to be able to respond to the quickly changing situation; live-streamed Board meetings to allow the public access to the important information that was being discussed
- Developed a Regional Response Plan to guide EIPH's response efforts through the pandemic
- Worked with long term care/assisted living facilities, schools, businesses, and other stakeholders to provide information and answer questions
- As cases increased, reassigned staff to assist with disease investigation efforts and then hired temporary staff to assist; staff worked 7/days a week for months
- Established a COVID-19 Data Dashboard on EIPH's website to provide data to the public
- Provided Daily Reports to the media/public on all things COVID related
- As the state moved through Governor Little's Reopening Phases, EIPH held numerous education sessions with businesses and other stakeholders to assist them in safely reopening
- Engaged Medical Reserve Corps volunteers to assist in EIPH's response efforts
- Began preparing for the arrival of COVID-19 vaccine (November/December, 2020)
- Served as a distribution center for vaccine to healthcare providers in our region
- When vaccine became available on December 14, 2020, administered it to eligible populations
- And much, much, more!

Until the COVID-19 pandemic is declared over, EIPH will diligently continue our response efforts serving the residents of Eastern Idaho.

270

number of Eastern Idaho residents who lost their lives due to COVID-19 (through June 30, 2021)
On December 14, 2020, the first COVID-19 vaccine was given in Idaho to a healthcare worker at Madison Memorial Hospital by a public health nurse and EIPH’s Clinical Services Administrator, Amy Gamett, RN. Prior to this historical moment, EIPH staff had been eagerly preparing for the roll out of COVID-19 vaccine to eligible recipients. Since vaccine was very limited initially, Idaho’s COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee (CVAC) and the governor prioritized healthcare workers to receive it first. Hospitals and Idaho Falls’ Emergency Medical Services staff partnered with EIPH to receive vaccine and administer it to their staff. EIPH's Clinical Services staff was tasked with providing vaccine to other non-hospital associated healthcare providers as well as some long term care providers in our health district. As the vaccine priority groups expanded over time, EIPH participated in vaccination efforts of school teachers and staff by setting up mass vaccination clinics throughout the district. The large groups gave EIPH staff the opportunity to perfect large clinic flow and determine the number of individuals staff could accommodate per hour. EIPH offered both on-site clinics and individual appointments in all counties.

On February 1, 2021, Idaho’s seniors (aged 65+) became eligible for vaccine, though vaccine was very limited and supplied weekly. After some initial challenges with our scheduling process, we implemented a centralized scheduling hotline with additional staff added to handle the significant call volume for appointments. The new system allowed eligible recipients to know when they could get a vaccine, gave them an opportunity to talk to a real person, and offered flexibility to find a vaccine at another provider’s office if the appointment was weeks out. The phone bank was successful and has been maintained to this day for individuals to schedule a COVID-19 appointment at any Eastern Idaho Public Health Office.

Progression through vaccine priority groups happened ahead of schedule. By early April all individuals eligible (aged 16+) had access to a clinic to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. In May, the age group was expanded to include 12- to 15-year-olds. EIPH has administered all US-approved COVID-19 vaccine in clinics: Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson/Janssen. Staff continue to offer weekly vaccine clinics in all eight of our district’s counties. EIPH has administered more COVID-19 vaccine than any other health district in the state and we remain a key vaccinator in our region.

EIPH has always focused on making sure individuals wanting or considering vaccination have accurate information. EIPH nurses and other staff have conversations frequently with individuals one-on-one to answer any questions or concerns. Vaccine is a tool to help our communities out of this pandemic. The more people vaccinated, the harder it is for the disease to spread to others as well as variants of the virus to take hold in the population.

Early vaccination clinics were largely located offsite at community centers, an event center, churches, and a mall. Volunteers as well as all of Clinical Services’ staff worked in COVID-19 clinics. Staff found they were able to efficiently serve sizable groups and maintain distancing between clients while they completed paperwork, received education, were vaccinated, and were observed following the vaccine. Most clinics facilitated paperwork in the recipient’s car, and created signage and clinic flow to create physical distancing. EIPH’s Bonneville County office was scheduling over 800 clients in a single clinic day. Staff reported that they could have served more if more vaccine would have been available. When extra vaccine was provided to the health district unexpectedly, EIPH administered over 1,000 doses in a single clinic.

59,029 COVID-19 vaccinations administered by EIPH through June 30, 2021
AGENCY-WIDE
We used Zoom to continually connect with our staff from all eight of our county offices to keep staff up-to-date on the quickly changing situation. All staff assisted in responding in increased call volume from the public. Internal policies were developed and followed in order to protect our workforce and minimize disruptions to staffing, which allowed us to continue providing critical public health services to the residents of Eastern Idaho.

CLINICAL SERVICES
While some Clinical Services staff joined in the efforts of the Communicable Disease staff conducting COVID-19 case investigations, leadership within the division worked to develop and implement policies that assured safe access to essential public health services. Most client services required an in-person visit that needed to be conducted safely for both client and provider. Masks, temperature checks, and health screenings became part of the appointment’s check-in process.

COMMUNITY HEALTH
Since many of our Community Health programs involve working with schools, community partners, and the public, they were put on hold temporarily. This allowed some of the Community Health Staff to assist with the COVID-19 Hotline as well as case investigations. Other services, like our Parents as Teachers program, continued in a virtual format so that families could still be engaged and receive support from our Child Development Specialists.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Our Environmental Health Specialists continued conducting field work while taking extra safety precautions.

WIC/NUTRITION
WIC transitioned to remote appointments for participants. This was made possible by waivers from U.S. Department of Agriculture and Health & Human Services that allowed WIC to provide services without requiring physical presence. Appointments were conducted over the phone and eWIC (food benefits) cards were mailed or delivered to participants curbside. Participants expressed gratitude for the ability to participate in WIC without being physically present.
EIPH staff greet and distribute paperwork to clients taking advantage of our Drive-Thru flu shot clinic in October of 2020. Drive-Thru clinics are a convenience to clients and now a standard practice at EIPH.
Vaccines are among the greatest advances in global health and development. For over two centuries, vaccines have safely reduced the scourge of diseases like polio, measles, and smallpox. Vaccines help prevent disease as well as deaths, even before the arrival of COVID-19.

Immunization services--routine vaccines for children and adults as well as foreign travel vaccines--is one of the core services provided by EIPH. We are one of the few health districts in Idaho to provide vaccines for Yellow Fever, Cholera, Typhoid, and Rabies. EIPH continues to offer many vaccines for free or at a reduced cost where expense is a barrier to service.

Unfortunately, since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in Idaho, EIPH provided fewer immunization services as many families delayed routine vaccine visits and less people traveled which reduced the demand for EIPH's foreign travel immunization services. Delays in routine vaccine are being reported nationally and there is some concern regarding the possibility of a resurgence of a vaccine preventable disease. EIPH’s continued efforts to increase routine childhood and adult vaccine visits will be important in assuring this does not occur.

The chart below provides a comparison of immunization visits and vaccines given for the past three fiscal years (July - June). Note--these numbers do NOT include COVID-19 vaccinations.
In 2020, as fall approached and our region’s hospitals were nearing capacity due to a surge in COVID-19 cases, EIPH knew it was going to be vital to protect individuals from influenza more than ever, both to protect individuals as well as help reduce the strain on our healthcare system. EIPH's staff found creative ways to provide influenza vaccine safely and efficiently through Drive-Thru clinics.

There were many lessons learned, such as “vehicles come in all shapes and sizes” and “signage can be interpreted in a different way from person to person.” EIPH's Drive-Thru clinics were offered in many of our counties in our office parking lots or in conjunction with partners, such as the Madison Fire Department where we used their fire station's vehicle bays. Clients were very appreciative and complementary of the flow. Several large families were vaccinated and reported they hoped to see us “next year” in a drive-thru line.

EIPH’s Drive-Thru vaccination clinics will continue to be offered long into the future.

A happy client who took part in one of our Drive-Thru flu vaccination clinics in the fall of 2020.
EIPH’s Reproductive Health program offers a variety of valuable clinical services to help individuals whether or not they have health insurance. Some services are available for no- or low-cost. Our clinicians and nurses provide education, testing, and treatment in a professional and confidential environment. Referrals to other providers, specialists, or community resources are made as needed.

Some of our services include:
- Family Planning/Birth Control
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening
- Sexually Transmitted Disease Testing and Treatment
- HIV Testing; Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)
- Hepatitis C Treatment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonneville County</th>
<th>Clark County</th>
<th>Custer County</th>
<th>Fremont County</th>
<th>Jefferson County</th>
<th>Lemhi County</th>
<th>Madison County</th>
<th>Teton County</th>
<th>FY21 Total</th>
<th>FY20 Total</th>
<th>FY19 Total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals Served</td>
<td>1,824</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>2,448</td>
<td>2,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Visits</td>
<td>2,677</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>3,710</td>
<td>3,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Title X Clients at ≤150% of Poverty Level</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
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For the Clinical Services Division, FY2020 was anticipated to be challenging due to our transition to a new Electronic Medical Record (EMR) software system, Patagonia Health. Notification of our need to depart from the system we had been using came abruptly and left our staff with less than six months to plan for the implementation of a new system. An EMR transition generally takes a year or longer to complete for most organizations, which involves workflow analysis, custom development, training, testing, data conversions, and much more.

For six months the Division’s leadership staff worked overtime to work with the vendor to create an EMR specific to EIPH’s services and requirements. Additionally, staff hours were spent prepping, training, and archiving the records in our current system.

The process and limited time required leadership to make the call to temporarily move from an EMR system to a paper charting system for one month as the old system expired and the new software was still in development. This resulted in a temporary decrease in efficiency as check-in, check-out, charting, and billing were slower and required additional steps. Seasoned staff recalled 20 years earlier and the initial transition away from paper to computers, and found a bit of humor in staff eager for the month of “paper” to be over.

On January 7, 2020 Clinical Services went live with Patagonia and our newly designed EMR. While the new system is still in its infancy, updates, adjustments, and workflow changes have been and will continue to be important as we work towards creating a truly efficient system.
When property is being developed into a subdivision, the property owner must have a test hole dug and then an EIPH Environmental Health Specialist conducts an on-site evaluation to ensure the land is able to support a septic system.
Idaho's Public Health Districts have the responsibility of administering Environmental Health programs across the state as a result of program delegation by the Directors of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) and Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW). These programs include:

**Idaho Department of Health & Welfare**
- Food Protection
- Swimming Pools
- Childcare

**Idaho Department of Environmental Quality**
- Individual and Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems
- Solid Waste Disposal
- Public Drinking Water Systems
- Land Development

### EIPH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY21</th>
<th>FY20</th>
<th>FY19</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Food Establishment Inspections</td>
<td>2,214</td>
<td>2,270</td>
<td>2,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Swimming Pools Inspections</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Childcare Facility Inspections</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Septic Permits Issued</td>
<td>1,157</td>
<td>926</td>
<td>793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Solid Waste Facility Inspections</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Public Water Systems Monitored</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Land Development Plats</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
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Over the past few years, septic system permit numbers and the number of new subdivision proposals have steadily increased. As a result, in November of 2020, a new full time position for an Environmental Health Specialist was added and filled at EIPH to help meet the increased demands in these programs. In total, EIPH has ten Environmental Health Specialists working in our land programs across our eight-county health district.
The goal of the Land Development Program mimics that of the Septic Program--protect the public’s health and the health of our environment. Therefore, the proper development of land, including the management and disposal of wastewater, is critical when approving land development projects. EIPH's Environmental Health staff has regulatory responsibility to review all new subdivisions to ensure that the land is suitable for disposing of wastes in order to accomplish this goal. Our staff work with County representatives in reviewing land development proposals, ensuring the development complies with all of Idaho's applicable public health laws and rules.

**INCREASED DEMAND IN LAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

The goal of the Land Development Program mimics that of the Septic Program--protect the public's health and the health of our environment. Therefore, the proper development of land, including the management and disposal of wastewater, is critical when approving land development projects. EIPH's Environmental Health staff has regulatory responsibility to review all new subdivisions to ensure that the land is suitable for disposing of wastes in order to accomplish this goal. Our staff work with County representatives in reviewing land development proposals, ensuring the development complies with all of Idaho's applicable public health laws and rules.

![A standard rock and pipe drainfield serving an individual home.](image)

**SEPTIC PERMITS ISSUED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Septic Permits Issued</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY2010</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2015</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2019</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2020</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY2021</td>
<td>1,250</td>
</tr>
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While activity slowed briefly in the program during the spring of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, activity quickly resumed and has continued to increase to record-breaking levels during the past year.
EIPH staff conducts Childcare Health & Safety Inspections. In Idaho, Standards for Daycare state each owner, operator, or applicant seeking licensure for a daycare center, group daycare facility, or a family daycare home must submit evidence that is satisfactory to the Department (IDHW) that owners, operators, staff and all other individuals 13 years of age or older who have unsupervised direct contact with children or are regularly on the premises have successfully completed, and received a clearance for, a Department criminal history and background check. The background check is a search of records, databases, and registries which include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the State of Idaho crime records, Idaho driving records, the statewide Child Abuse Central Registry, Adult Protection Registry, Sexual Offender Registry, Nurse Aide Registry, and the Office of Inspector General exclusion list.

Starting in September 2020, checking for compliance with the Background Checks and Clearance standard became part of our responsibility while conducting Childcare Health & Safety inspections. Documentation of this clearance must be on site at the childcare facility and provided to the inspector during the Health and Safety inspection. Notice of this requirement was sent to all of the state’s childcare providers by IDHW on June 26, 2020, emphasizing to providers that if childcare staff do not have this clearance, they will not be counted in the child-to-staff ratios and cannot be on the premise.

EIPH’s Environmental Health staff has conducted 127 Health and Safety Inspections since the onset of the documentation requirement and has found both compliance and non-compliance by facilities. When non-compliance was found, the inspector had to ask the staff without the clearance to leave the premise and then make sure that ratios were in compliance. As a result, there were times when alternate staff had to be called into work at the facility or a child/children had to be picked up by parents in order for the facility to be in compliance with child-to-staff ratios. On the occasions that this occurred, EIPH’s inspector stayed on the premise to ensure the health and safety of the children.
In June of 2021, EIPH WIC Participants received $21,255 in fresh fruits and veggies.

**WIC Food Dollars Spent**

$3,143,546

at Retailers in Eastern Idaho in FY20
The WIC program is a federally funded special supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children. To be eligible for WIC, applicants must be a resident of Idaho, meet income guidelines, and be pregnant or breastfeeding a baby under one year of age or have just had a baby, or have an infant or child under the age of five. WIC helps eligible families save money, eat well, learn about nutrition, and stay healthy at no cost to the family. WIC program provides participants with:

- Healthy Foods
- Health Screenings
- Health and Nutrition Information
- Help from Licensed Registered Dietitians
- Breastfeeding Information and Support
- Referrals to Health and Social Services

### WIC INCOME GUIDELINES

**July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Household Members</th>
<th>Maximum Before Taxes Household Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$943</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For each additional person, add $8,399/year
Pregnant woman = 2 people

### WIC PROGRAM STATISTICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Clients Enrolled</th>
<th># (% of Clients Participating)</th>
<th># &amp; % of Women Enrolled</th>
<th># &amp; % of Infants Enrolled (0-12 months)</th>
<th># &amp; % of Children Enrolled (1-5 years)</th>
<th>WIC Food Dollars Spent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonneville County</td>
<td>3,104</td>
<td>3,016 (100%)</td>
<td>663 (21%)</td>
<td>616 (20%)</td>
<td>$1,814,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark County</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>23 (96%)</td>
<td>5 (21%)</td>
<td>2 (8%)</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custer County</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>27 (90%)</td>
<td>6 (20%)</td>
<td>6 (20%)</td>
<td>$18,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont County</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>107 (96%)</td>
<td>17 (15%)</td>
<td>16 (14%)</td>
<td>$58,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson County</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>522 (98%)</td>
<td>106 (19%)</td>
<td>99 (19%)</td>
<td>$179,232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemhi County</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>118 (91%)</td>
<td>27 (21%)</td>
<td>23 (18%)</td>
<td>$67,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison County</td>
<td>2,068</td>
<td>1,986 (96%)</td>
<td>589 (28%)</td>
<td>475 (23%)</td>
<td>$963,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teton County</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>91 (96%)</td>
<td>19 (20%)</td>
<td>19 (20%)</td>
<td>$41,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FY21 Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,096</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,890 (97%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,432 (23%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,256 (21%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,143,546</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FY20 Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,281</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,695 (91%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,624 (26%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,367 (22%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,373,316</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FY19 Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,316</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,720 (91%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,539 (27%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,415 (25%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,312,887</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Prior to eWIC (an electronic benefits card rather than a paper voucher that was implemented in 2020), Idaho tracked WIC food dollars by the county in which they were issued. With eWIC, food dollars are now tracked by the county in which they are redeemed. Since Clark County does not have an authorized WIC store, there have no food dollars redeemed in that county.
Nutrition education distinguishes WIC as a superior nutrition program. To ensure education remained at the forefront of our program throughout the pandemic, adaptations were made. Resources and documents were digitized or revised and uploaded to our website making the information readily available for participants during and after telephone appointments. Many participants utilize the online modules offered through WICSmart. EIPH's WIC staff did a wonderful job teaching participants how to access and utilize WICSmart education modules and tracking missed education, sending reminders about education options. As a result, EIPH's WIC program has the highest WICSmart usage rate in the state, with program participants taking an average of 370 nutrition education training modules per month.

In February of 2021, EIPH's WIC program implemented an online application including online form submission. This enabled participants to submit documents using a secure link on EIPH's website from a desktop computer or mobile device. Online form submission is particularly helpful for participants living in rural areas. We receive 150-200 submissions/month. Online form submission, in combination with telephone appointments and online education, allows EIPH staff to complete a participant's entire WIC appointment remotely.

Besides keeping our staff and participants safe, remote appointments are extremely convenient for families, especially in our more rural areas, allowing participants to receive services from the ease and comfort of their own homes.
Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, EIPH’s breastfeeding peer counselors provided breastfeeding support and education through in-person breastfeeding classes, hospital visits, home visits, phone calls, and text messages. During the pandemic, peer counselors have become creative at finding ways to provide breastfeeding education and support without in-person contact. This was done by digitizing all education materials which made it easy to text and email the information to participants. Virtual visits were offered in lieu of home and hospital visits. Breastfeeding classes were recorded and a link to the class sent to participants. Peer counselors were also available to deliver breast pumps to the participants’ front door.

In response to complaints about fruits and vegetables not scanning properly at retailers, EIPH’s WIC staff visited all WIC-authorized grocery stores throughout the health district and scanned hundreds of fruits and vegetables and helped the State WIC and local grocery stores resolve the issue.

In our health district, we traditionally have high breastfeeding initiation rates. The data below is the most current data from Idaho’s Pregnancy Risk Assessment Tracking System (2019) for women who initiate breastfeeding after giving birth compared to those still breastfeeding six months later.
PROGRAM RESOURCES

Eastern Idaho Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

We offer the following services in our eight-county region:

Immunization Program
- Provides a full range of vaccines for all ages.
- Specializes in foreign travel and flu vaccines
- Accepts insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare
- Some reduced-cost vaccines for uninsured/underinsured adults
- No child denied routine immunizations due to inability to pay
- Workplace vaccination clinics available

Reproductive Health Program
- All services are personal and confidential.
- Most services billed on a sliding fee scale based on family size and household income
- Accepts insurance and Medicaid
- Provides a full range of services and education, including:
  - Annual exams
  - Pregnancy tests
  - Birth control
  - Testing, counseling, and treatment of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) including HIV/AIDS
  - Hepatitis C treatment and PREP services available

Women’s Health Check (WCH) Program
- FREE breast and cervical cancer screening program.
- Serves low income, uninsured women
- Provides referrals for diagnostic testing and treatment

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program
- WIC is a FREE supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children who meet income and eligibility guidelines.
- Teaches families nutrition and how to prepare healthy meals
- Provides healthy foods like milk, eggs, cheese, fruits, and veggies
- Provides breastfeeding education and support
- Provides referrals to other community resources

Healthy Living Programs
- Services offered to help people live healthier lives.
  - FREE classes to help people stop using tobacco
  - FREE Fall Prevention classes for older adults to help them reduce the risk of falls
  - FREE Substance Use and Suicide Prevention resources and materials

Visit www.EIPH.Idaho.gov or scan the QR code for a full list of public health services provided as well as community resources in Eastern Idaho.

CALL YOUR LOCAL OFFICE TODAY TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>TOLL-FREE 1-855-533-3160</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonneville</td>
<td>(208) 522-0310</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark County</td>
<td>(208) 374-5216</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custer County</td>
<td>(208) 879-2304</td>
<td>(208) 388-2347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont County</td>
<td>(208) 624-7585</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson County</td>
<td>(208) 745-7297</td>
<td>(208) 663-4860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison County</td>
<td>(208) 356-3239</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teton County</td>
<td>(208) 354-2220</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemhi County</td>
<td>(208) 756-2523</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.EIPH.Idaho.gov

Eastern Idaho Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

EASTERN IDAHO COMMUNITY RESOURCES

VISIT EIPH.IDAHO.GOV

VACCINES HELP SLOW OUR SPREAD OF COVID-19

THE COVID-19 VACCINE HELPS PROTECT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

To schedule a vaccination appointment, please call 208-533-3223 (LOCAL) or 855-533-3160 (TOLL-FREE) or visit www.EIPH.Idaho.gov.