



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Platte County Health Department

Epi Update

A newsletter for healthcare professionals in Platte County, MO

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4

APRIL 13, 2016

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Access to care, mental health, and chronic disease are the top 3 health priorities in Platte County
- Talk, test, treat during STD Awareness Month. PCHD offers STD testing services
- Get updated information and healthcare resources on Zika and Ebola virus
- Reported flu peaked in Platte County in March

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Spotlight	2
STD Testing	
Zika Resources	2
Ebola Update	2
Platte County Flu Report	3
March CD Report	4

For more information or questions about Epi Update, contact Erin Sanders, PCHD Epidemiology Specialist at: (816) 858-2412

Platte County's Top Health Priorities

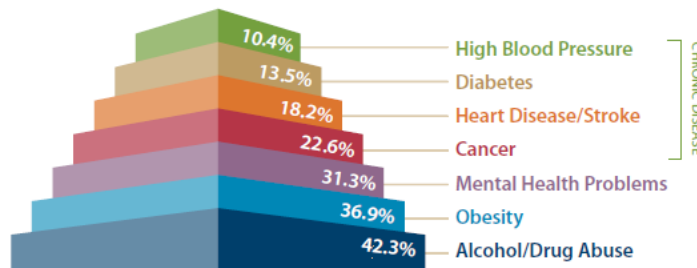
In 2015, Platte County Health Department partnered with the Northland Health Alliance to create a **Community Health Assessment** for the Northland region, which is comprised of residents of Clay and Platte counties.

Data collected for the assessment included **public health data, survey data, census data,** and inpatient and emergency room visit data from **Northland hospitals.** Additionally, community feedback was obtained through a **Community Health Survey** of over **1,100 Clay and Platte County residents.** Analysis of this data led Platte County Health Department to identify **three key health priorities** that must be addressed in order to improve the health and quality of life for Platte County citizens. These priorities are:

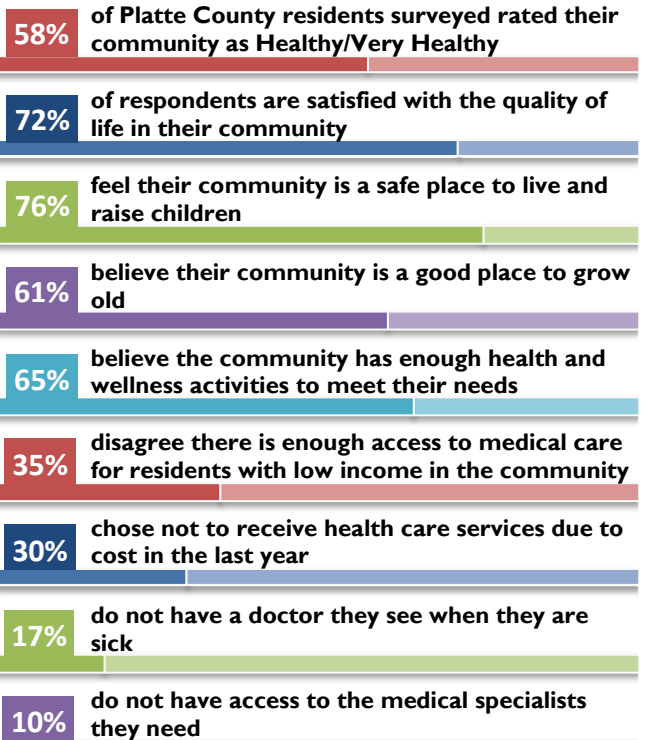
1. Access to Care
2. Mental Health and Substance Abuse
3. Chronic Disease

The following graphics depict some **findings** from the Community Health Survey about these three key priorities. More information and data can also be found in the **full 2015 Community Health Assessment**, which is available on PCHD's website, www.plattecountyhealthdept.com.¹

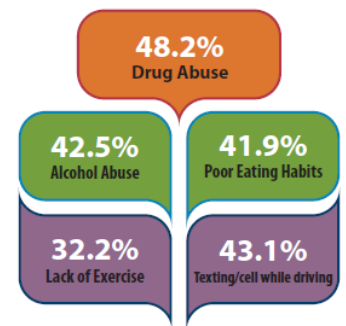
What are the three most important health problems in my community? (survey responses)¹



2015 Northland Community Health Survey¹



What are the three most important "risky behaviors" in my community? (survey responses)¹





Spotlight PCHD

talk.test.treat.

Talk openly to your partner(s) and your doctor about sexual health and STDs.

#STDMONTH16



Know how to prevent Zika and its spread: Even if they do not feel sick, travelers returning to the United States from an area with Zika should take steps to prevent mosquito bites for 3 weeks after their return so they do not spread Zika to uninfected mosquitoes. Learn more about prevention at cdc.gov/zika/prevention¹⁰

Spotlight on STD Testing

Be STD Aware!

April is STD Awareness Month

Anyone who is sexually active can get gonorrhea and chlamydia, and most persons that are infected **do not have any symptoms**. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that **individuals aged 13-64 get tested for HIV once** in their lifetime, and those with risk factors (unprotected sex, needle sharing, multiple partners) get tested more frequently.²

Sexually transmitted diseases are **just infections** and they **infect people regardless of race, gender, religion or sexual orientation**. Both gonorrhea and chlamydia can be cured with the right medication, but they can cause **serious health conditions** in men and

women if not treated. If not treated, these infections can make it **difficult for a woman to get pregnant**.

The Platte County Health Department will test for **Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, HIV, and Syphilis** through our walk-in clinic Monday-Friday 8:00am-3:30pm at our Parkville location. Fees for these tests may vary based on nursing assessment, but will not exceed \$30.00.

Free condoms are also available per request.

Persons that come to our clinic for testing will be counseled on the importance of preventing STD infections by decreasing the risk factors in their lives. All services are confidential.

Updated Zika Resources

- CDC's list of [areas with active Zika transmission](#) (and related [travel notices](#)) to date includes locations in the Americas, Oceania/Pacific Islands, and Cape Verde in Africa^{3,4}
- CDC has new [recommendations for women and their partners who are thinking about pregnancy](#) and have had possible Zika exposure, including suggested timeframes to wait before trying to get pregnant⁵
- CDC has developed a "[Doctor's Visit Checklist](#)" for pregnant women who traveled to an area with Zika⁶
- Updated March 25: Guidelines for [prevention of sexual transmission of Zika](#) and [caring for pregnant women and women of reproductive age with possible Zika exposure](#)^{7,8}
- Missouri's State Public Health Laboratory can now do Zika testing. Patients who want to be tested should talk to their provider. Providers must contact their local or state health department to receive approval for Zika testing from DHSS before specimens can be submitted⁹
- CDC's healthcare provider resources are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/index.html>

Ebola Outbreak Update

On March 29, WHO terminated the Public Health Emergency of International Concern for the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.¹¹ Though it is expected that new clusters of Ebola cases will continue to occur sporadically due to virus persistence in some survivors, countries now have the capacity to detect and rapidly respond to new cases, limiting the risk of international spread. A recent flare up of Ebola cases has occurred in Guinea, resulting in 9 cases in the country as of April 7 as well as several cases in Liberia, the first of which was confirmed on April 1.^{12,13}

On February 19, enhanced entry screening measures were removed for travelers from Guinea to the U.S.. Guinea was the last of the Ebola-affected countries still subject to enhanced U.S. entry screening.¹⁴

CDC has [posted new FAQs regarding screening for Ebola in healthcare facilities](#).¹⁵ Though screening practices should be adjusted, it is still important for healthcare facilities to continue to obtain a travel history during triage of ill patients. For more detailed info, see www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/evaluating-patients/index.html.

Platte County Influenza Report

Platte County 2015-16 Reported Influenza Cases								
02/23/16-04/02/16		Epi Week					Total	STD*
Age Group	Type	9	10	11	12	13		(40-52, 1-13)
0-1	Type A	2		1			3	3
	Type B		1				1	1
	Type A or B						0	0
2-4	Type A	5		3			8	13
	Type B		1				1	4
	Type A or B						0	0
5-14	Type A	4	4	2	2		12	20
	Type B	7	7	1			15	32
	Type A or B			1			1	5
15-24	Type A	2	2	1	1		6	9
	Type B	2	4	1			7	13
	Type A or B						0	3
25-49	Type A	5	5	5	1	3	19	35
	Type B		1	3	1		5	13
	Type A or B		1	1		1	3	9
50-64	Type A	3	2	7	1		13	23
	Type B	2	1	2			5	8
	Type A or B		1	1			2	3
65+	Type A	1	8				9	12
	Type B			2		1	3	5
	Type A or B						0	0

Flu totals[†]

Weeks 9-13:

A	70
B	37
A or B	6

*Season to date:

A	115
B	76
A or B	20

[†] Reflect total reports received as of 4/8/16

Notable this Month:

Reported influenza cases were highest in the first 3 weeks of March, peaking the week of Mar 6 and dropping considerably the last 2 weeks of the month.

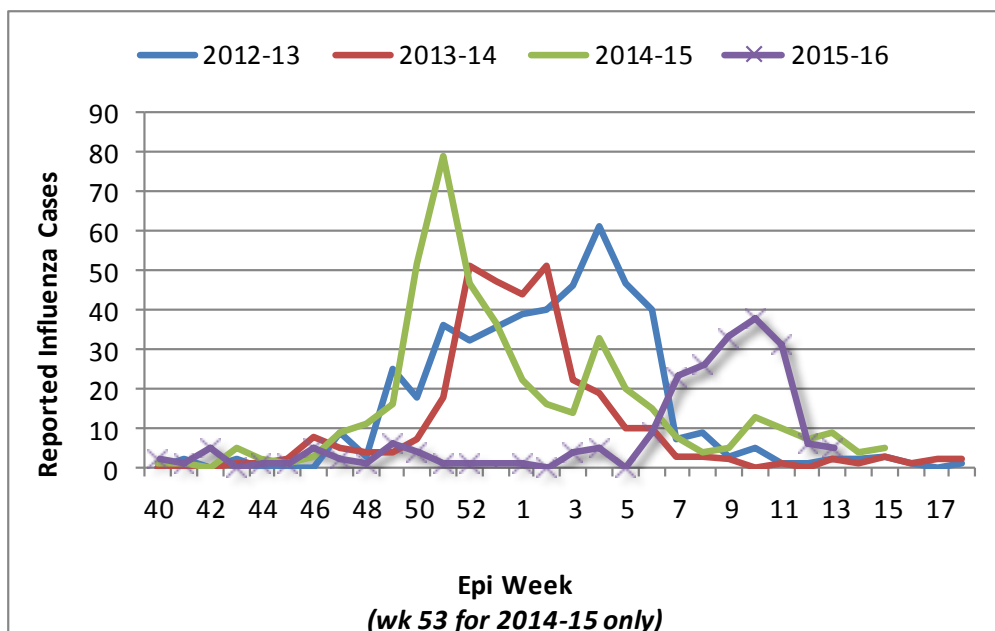
Season to date, flu A incidence was highest in 0-4 year olds, while flu B incidence was highest in those aged 5-14. In March, overall flu incidence was highest in 0-4 year olds, followed by 5-14 year olds.



Reminder:

Fax your flu reports **weekly** to PCHD at 816-858-2087. Click [HERE](#) for a copy of the reporting form.

Reported Influenza Cases in Platte County residents, by Epidemiological week, past 3 influenza seasons and 2015-16 season-to-date[†]



In comparison with the last 3 flu seasons, influenza in Platte County peaked later this season, and fewer total cases have been reported season-to-date

Communicable Disease Report

Notable this month: Though still above average YTD*, only 3 gastrointestinal diseases were reported in March, the lowest monthly number of gastrointestinal reports PCHD has received since June 2015. These included 1 campylobacter, 1 salmonella, and 1 shigella.

STD and Hepatitis reporting were slightly but not significantly above average this month, though STD reporting is still high YTD. Other reports to PCHD in the month of March included several calls about Zika virus and influenza.

Reportable Diseases March 2016	YTD*						5 YR AVG†
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	
Animal Bites	3	4	16	11	5	11	11
Gastrointestinal Diseases	3	17	9	2	11	5	6
Hepatitis	10	23	17	15	18	34	21
STD	7	25	10	10	16	20	13
Tuberculosis	3	10	5	14	15	9	10
Other	11	28	16	11	15	22	16
TOTAL	37	107	73	63	80	101	77

*Year-to-date (counts reflect total cases January through March of the given year)

† Five year average is of YTD counts for years 2011-2015.

Please note that categories are grouped communicable diseases or conditions, most of which are mandatory by law to report (see links below). Totals reported for each category represent total number of reports and inquiries to the health department, not total number of cases.

Categories: Animal bites category includes any type of bite. Gastrointestinal Disease category includes all reportable GI diseases. Hepatitis category could include chronic or acute infections of Hepatitis A, B or C. Sexually Transmitted Disease category includes all reportable STDs other than Hepatitis. Tuberculosis category includes all reports, calls/inquiries, requests for previous records, etc., regarding active or latent cases of TB. Other category includes reports or inquiries regarding individual diseases that do not fit previous categories.

List of Reportable Diseases & Conditions: <http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/communicabledisease/pdf/reportablediseaselist2.pdf>

Rules of Department of Health and Senior Services - Division 20—Division of Community and Public Health Chapter 20—Communicable Diseases: <http://s1.sos.mo.gov/cmsimages/adrules/csr/current/19csr/19c20-20.pdf>

References

- 2015 Platte County Community Health Assessment. Retrieved from <http://plattecountyhealthdept.com/docview.aspx?docid=43518>
- CDC. STD & HIV Screening Recommendations. Feb 11, 2016. Retrieved 2016, Apr 8 from <http://www.cdc.gov/std/prevention/screeningrecs.htm>
- CDC. All countries and territories with active Zika virus transmission. Apr 4, 2016. Retrieved 2016, Apr 11 from <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/active-countries.html>
- CDC. Zika travel information. Apr 1, 2016. Retrieved 2016, Apr 11 from <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information>
- CDC. Zika virus information for specific groups: Women and their partners who are thinking about pregnancy. Mar 26, 2016. Retrieved 2016, Apr 12 from <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/pregnancy/thinking-about-pregnancy.html>
- CDC. Doctor's visit checklist: For pregnant women who traveled to an area with Zika. Mar 14, 2016. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/pdfs/docvisit-checklist-travelpreg.pdf>
- CDC. Update: Interim Guidance for Prevention of Sexual Transmission of Zika Virus — United States, 2016. *MMWR* 2016;65(12):323–325. Retrieved 2016, Apr 12 from <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6512e3.htm>
- CDC. Update: Interim Guidelines for Health Care Providers Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure — United States, 2016. *MMWR* 2016;65(05):122–127. Retrieved 2016, Apr 12 from http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6512e2.htm?s_cid=mm6512e2_w.htm
- MDHSS. Missouri State Public Health Laboratory designated as a Zika Virus Testing Laboratory. Apr 4, 2016. Retrieved from <http://health.mo.gov/information/news/2016/zika4416>
- CDC. Zika virus: Prevention. Mar 28, 2016. Retrieved 2016, Apr 12 from <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/index.html>
- WHO. Statement on the 9th meeting of the IHR Emergency Committee regarding the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. Mar 29, 2016. Retrieved from <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/statements/2016/end-of-ebola-phaeic/en/>
- WHO. Liberia and Guinea step up coordination to stem new cases of Ebola. Apr 7, 2016. Retrieved from <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/ebola/liberia-guinea-flareups-update/en/>
- WHO. New positive case of Ebola virus disease confirmed in Liberia. Apr 1, 2016. Retrieved from <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/statements/2016/liberia-ebola/en/>
- CDC. Enhanced Entry Airport Screening and Routing for Ebola to End for Travelers from Guinea to the United States. Feb 18, 2016. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/s0218-ebola-airport-screening.html>
- CDC. Frequently Asked Questions on Screening for Ebola Virus Disease for Providers, Healthcare Facilities and Health Departments. Mar 17, 2016. Retrieved 2016, Apr 8 from <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/evaluating-patients/faqs-screening-ebola-providers-hc-facilities-health-departments.html>

Platte County Health Department

North

212 Marshall Road
Platte City, MO 64079
(816)858-2412
Fax (816)858-2087

South

1201 East Street
Parkville, MO 64152
(816)587-5998
Fax (816)587-6028

Services Provided

- Disease Surveillance
- Emergency Preparedness
- Environmental Health
 - *Restaurant & Septic Inspections*
- Health Education
- Special Deliveries Program
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- Vital Records
 - *Birth & Death Certificates*
- Family Healthcare Clinic
 - *Physician*
 - *Nurse Practitioner*
- Walk-In Clinic
 - *Adult/Child /Travel Vaccinations*
 - *HIV/STD Testing*
 - *Pregnancy Testing*

Find us online at:

plattecountyhealthdept.com

Facebook
Like Us

Twitter

Our Blog