

SAN JUAN BASIN public health

Executive Director and Staff Report to the Board of Health

for February 2021

Staff Reports

Behavioral Health

Thriving Communities Program Team (TCP):

- The Thriving Communities team improve access to resources, services, and/or programs by partnering with other regional LPHAs and Rise Above Colorado to develop a unique youth driven mural project series across the 5-county region of SW Colorado and by doing so **integrating culturally responsive health equity concepts into new and existing programs.**

Communities that Care (CTC):

- The CTC Community Mobilizer improved acceptance of resources, services, and/or programs by organizing workgroups to deliver positive community norming messaging and promoting pro-social social events and by doing so **identified and addressed barriers to community/public acceptance of evidence-based public health concepts.**

Suicide Prevention (SP)/Gun Shop Project:

- The Thriving Communities Program Manager identify and address gaps in community/public knowledge by presenting to multiple community groups and individual stakeholders on the collaborative's strategic plan and by doing so **improved awareness of resources, services, and/or programs.**

Social Determinants of Health

Health Insurance Literacy:

- Most of February was dedicated to the Uninsured Enrollment Period which started on February 8th. This Enrollment Period is specific to those who are currently uninsured and is not a time to switch plans for those currently enrolled. Although this Special Enrollment Period is a great opportunity for those to apply; our enrollment numbers have not been significant. This is common amongst other counties in Colorado, and the expected reason is that this Enrollment Period was held too close to Open Enrollment. We hosted a Webinar specific to the Uninsured Enrollment Period on February 16th. We also participated in the SJBPB Community Resource Webinars on February 23rd and 25th, presenting and promoting our Health Insurance Literacy Program. This month we focused on getting our information out there through social media posts and radio ads. In order to do so, we transferred funds from our travel budget into our communications budget, since we do not expect any travel to occur this year due to COVID.

Environmental Health

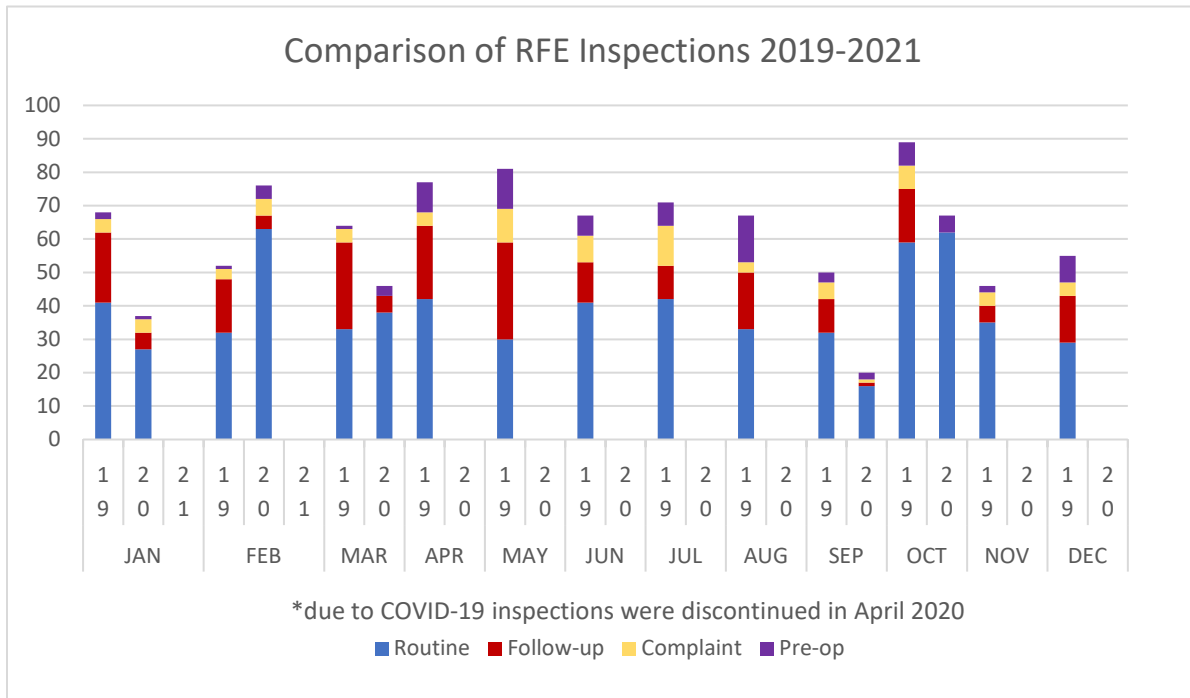
- EH services continue to be offered primarily online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. EH staff are deployed into multiple roles in the COVID-19 response.

Consumer Protection:

Retail Food Program

- Retail Food staff continuing to process renewals and issue licenses. We are working with delinquent establishments to complete renewals. Staff has also begun "Compliance Assistance" calls with fee-waived Retail Food Establishments.

See charts below:



Childcare Inspection Program

- CDPHE Child Care staff has been assisting SJBPH Child Care program by conducting remote routine inspections for our local licensed establishments. Attended Tri-County Head Start's Health Services Advisory Committee meeting to learn about TCHS's children's health initiatives and to see where and how SJBPH may be able to support and assist them.

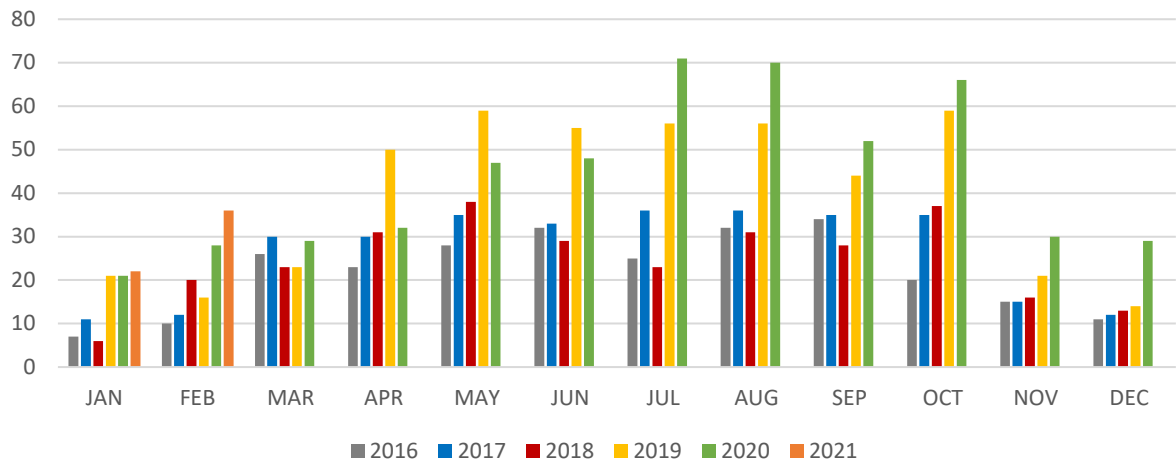
Water and Air Quality:

On-Site Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)

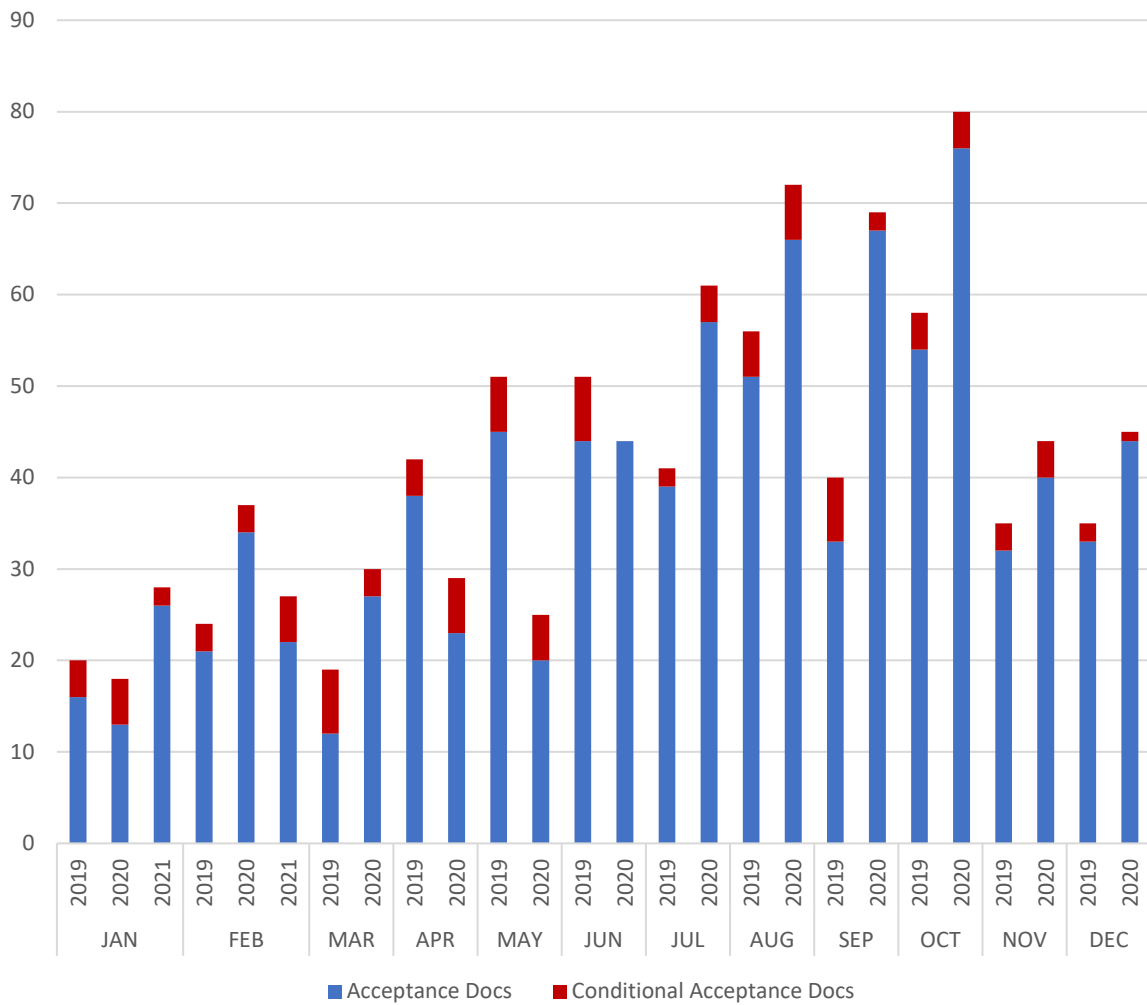
- SJBPH received 36 applications and 25 issued permits. Staff issued 22 Transfer of Title Acceptance Documents, and 5 Conditional Acceptance Documents. 17 inspections were conducted.

See charts below.

Number of OWTS Permit Applications by Month



2019-21 Transfer of Title Acceptance Documents by Month



Surface and Drinking Water

- No updates.

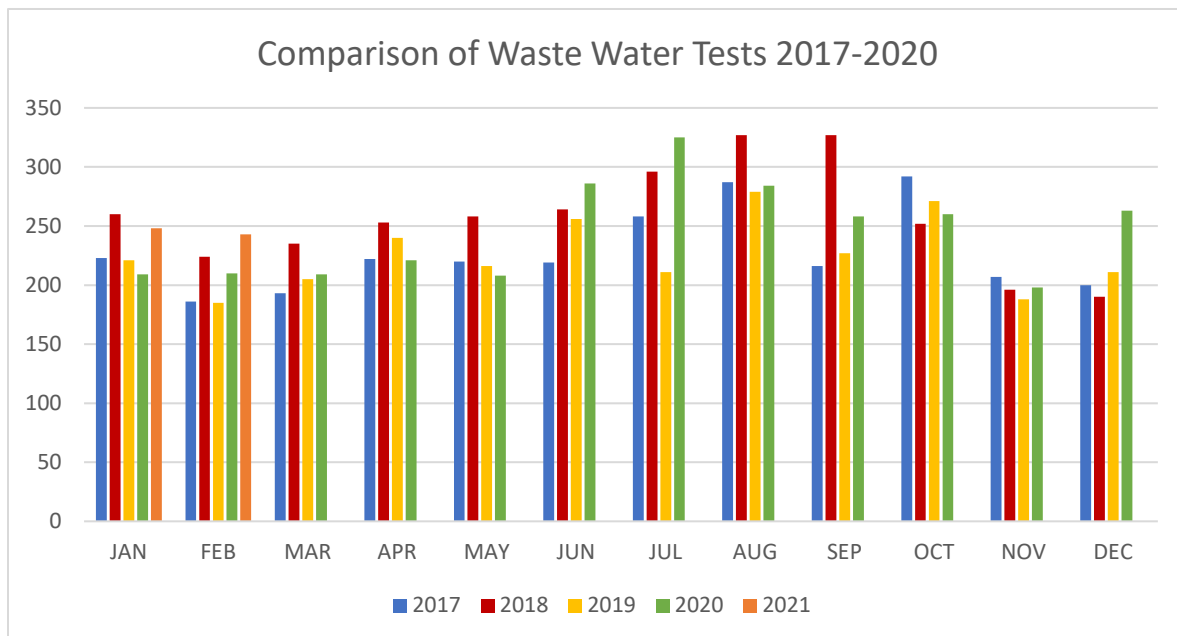
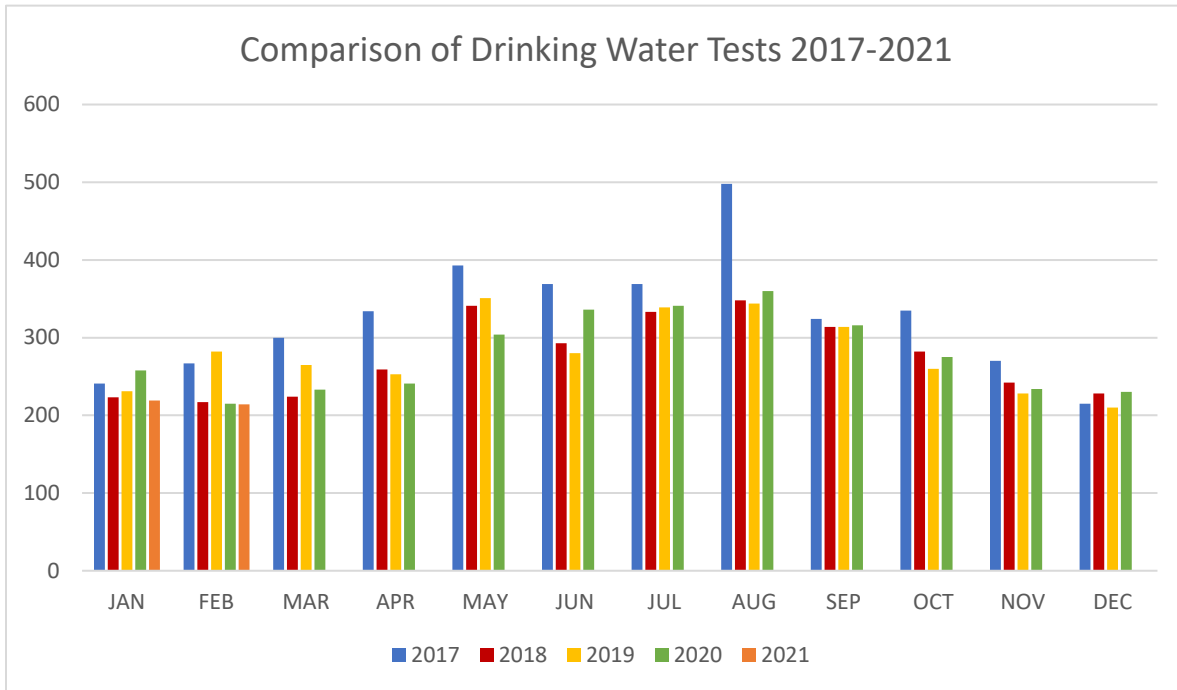
Radon

- Staff held two virtual radon workshops that provided education for 22 La Plata County residents, 3 Archuleta County residents, and 1 San Juan County resident. 38 test kits were distributed (32 in La Plata and 6 in Archuleta).

Water Lab

- Water lab staff processed 214 drinking water samples and 243 wastewater samples.

See charts below.



Health Behaviors

Baby and Me Tobacco Free:

- Another pregnant mom and her partner enrolled in the Baby and Me Tobacco Free program to help them successfully quit their tobacco habit, **demonstrating the accessibility of this effective program.**

Clinic:

- The clinic continues to provide screening and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STI) to **improve access to comprehensive STI care.**
- The clinic is developing new standing orders to allow for more availability of STI testing and treatment in the absence of a medical provider to **increase access to STI testing and treatment.**

Immunizations:

- The SJBPH clinic staff worked with COVID team to host various COVID vaccine clinics for high needs populations at the SJBPH office to **increase access to preventative vaccines.**
- The immunization clinic continues to provide routine immunizations to children and adults to **increase access to prevention services.**
- The immunization clinic sent out reminder recalls to children needing MMR vaccines to **increase awareness of services and remove barriers to vaccine access.**

Nurse Family Partnership (NFP):

- Reviewed NFP Continuation Report process and program strengths/challenges in 2020 with Community Advisory Board **improving awareness of NFP program.**
- NFP Continuation Report completed and submitted to Colorado Coordination Team **using data-informed quality improvement process to examine program.**
- NFP presented at virtual resource fairs on 2/23/21 and 2/24/21 **improving awareness of NFP program.**

SafeCare:

- SafeCare continues to address **workforce development gaps** by participating in relevant training opportunities. SafeCare Supervisor has attended the Brazelton Touchpoints Center Webinar Series on using strength-based approaches to engage families.
- SafeCare has improved **awareness of services** among the general population and community partners by increasing outreach presence virtually as well as through social media outlets and radio/print avenues.

Statewide Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (STEPP):

- The new Substance Use Prevention Coordinator integrated culturally responsive health equity concepts into new and existing programs by working with the STEPP and CDPHE to identify targeted tobacco prevention campaigns through SE2 Media and by doing so **will improve access to resources, services, and/or programs.**

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):

- The SJBPH WIC program manager implemented targeted outreach in the Ignacio service area including, cross referrals with the Southern Ute Food Distribution Program and advertisement in the Southern Ute Drum and the Ignacio city newsletter, **demonstrating commitment to improve awareness of services.**
- The SJBPH WIC program manager participated as a presenter in two SJBPH Virtual Resource Fairs, **demonstrating commitment to improve awareness of services.**

Clinical Care Linkage

Cancer Prevention and Early Detection (CPED – Women’s Wellness Connection):

- The CPED program continues to provide breast and cervical screenings and diagnostics to patients to **increase access to services.**

Delta Dental:

- Delta Care Coordinator provided care coordination, information, and referrals to 20 clients in 4 counties, **fostering resiliency and improving access to care.**

Dental/Regional Oral Health Specialist (ROHS):

- The ROHS Team shared oral health care resources to the Members of the Community Advisory Board Meeting **improving access to care.**

HCP Specialty Clinics/Maternal Child Health (MCH):

- HCP Team coordinated referrals and established appointments for eight clients for Neurology telehealth clinic 2/19/21, **fostering resiliency and improving access to care.**

Language Services:

- SJBPH hosted a collaborative brainstorming session with advocates of the immigrant and Spanish speaking community to discuss barriers to this population getting the COVID vaccine in order to **address barriers to community acceptance of COVID-19 vaccination and increase access to COVID-19 vaccination.**
- SJBPH clinic staff continue to navigate Spanish speakers to birth control resources available to them as well as provide in office care **to increase access services.**

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):

- Educated and coached new to Durango clients about available providers and resources and assisted in clients obtaining appointments for the providers, **improving access to care.**

Communicable Disease

Diseases reported February 1-February 28, 2021:

3 Animal Bites (1 Archuleta, 2 La Plata)

1 Salmonellosis (La Plata)

1 Varicella (Chicken Pox) (La Plata)

Communicable Disease:

- Regional Epi continues to be 100% in response. Other communicable disease follow up is being done by CDPHE

Tuberculosis (TB):

- Worked on training TB/immunization nurse on TB protocol

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Emergency Preparedness and Response:

- Staff continue to present SJBPH COVID-19 response activities weekly to stakeholders to address barriers to community/public acceptance of evidence-based public health concepts.
- Staff coordinated with schools and licensed childcare facilities in both Archuleta and La Plata Counties to receive COVID-19 vaccine **by removing barriers to partner agency/stakeholder access.**

Equity in Emergency Preparedness:

- Health Equity meeting – team is working on finding health equity training for an upcoming all-staff meeting.

Universal Activities

Administrative Services:

Human Resources: HR Staffing Updates

March 10th

- The following vacancies were filled since the last report:
 - Environmental Health Assistant (internal move)
- The following vacancies have been hired for with future start dates:
 - Health Educator
- Recruitment continues for the following staff positions:
 - Communicable Disease Specialist I, Communicable Disease Specialist II, Communicable Disease Manager, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Environmental Health Specialist I, Public Health Nurse (COVID Vaccine), Administrative Support Assistant, COVID Vaccine Coordinator

Assessment and Planning:

- Staff supported data requests from internal and external partners who were then able **to provide evidence-based public health recommendations.**
- Staff participated in the state Child Fatality Prevention System's first quarterly meeting and equity training as well as the Investigative and Data Quality Subcommittee meeting **increasing organizational capacity.**
- Staff participated in several webinars focused on topics including expanding your data culture and "Alcohol Policy Panel: Adolescents, Alcohol, and Mental Health, allowing for **opportunities to excel and innovate.**

Communications:

- In February, SJBPH communications focused both on COVID-19 information, and non-COVID public health and agency information. Topics included localized (state and local) reporting, information on COVID-19 outbreaks, COVID-19 testing, contact tracing, COVID dial information, COVID precautions (especially for parents of school-aged children), covid vaccine distribution, covid vaccine eligibility phases, SJBPH's new data dashboard, and collaboration with community partners **to improve awareness and acceptance of public health resources, services, programs, and value to the community.** Agency communications were shared on client-focused programs such as the Regional Oral Health program, the new open enrollment

period, Nurse-Family Partnership, SafeCare, and WIC. Communications were through a variety of channels including print, radio, tv, social media, and email.

- In February, SJBPH communications staff distributed **one** agency e-newsletter, **four** weekly COVID updates, wrote and distributed **11** media releases, responded to **18** media inquiries, posted **164** tweets, and **113** Facebook posts to both SJBPH's main FB page, and to its COVID-19 page. Posts were focused on the coronavirus outbreak, local COVID-19 data, vaccine information, COVID-19 prevention, mental health during COVID-19, COVID-19 testing info, contact tracing, and promoting SJPBH programs and services. (See above) SJBPH was featured in articles/radio/tv stories in newspapers, online news outlets, and local radio stations. **These activities help to improve awareness and acceptance of public health resources, services, programs, and value to the community.**

Facilities/Fleet:

- No updates.