



# Health Services Advisory Board Meeting Public Health Services Report

November 5, 2024





# Public Health Officer Update

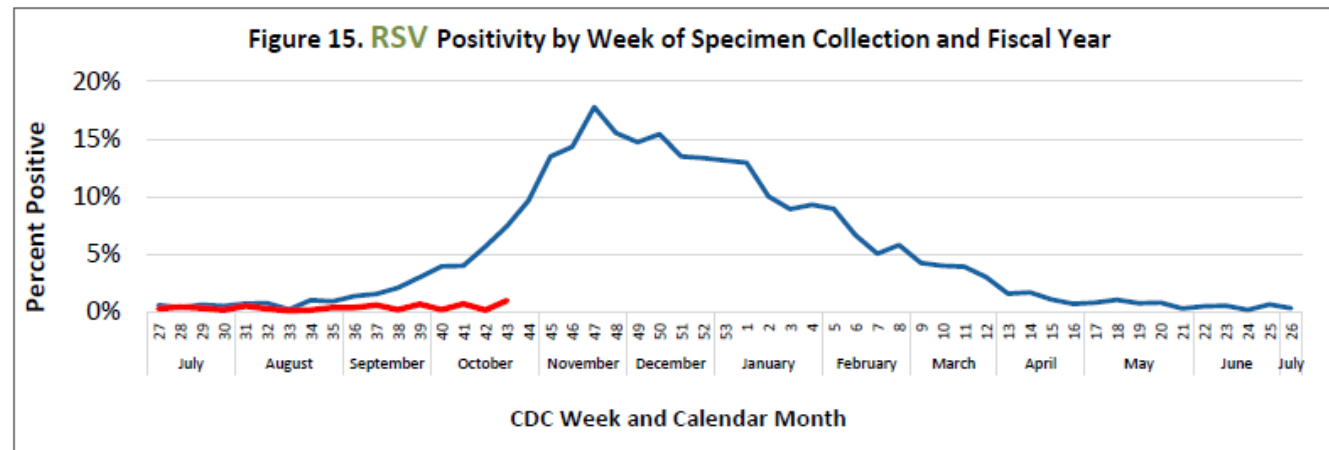
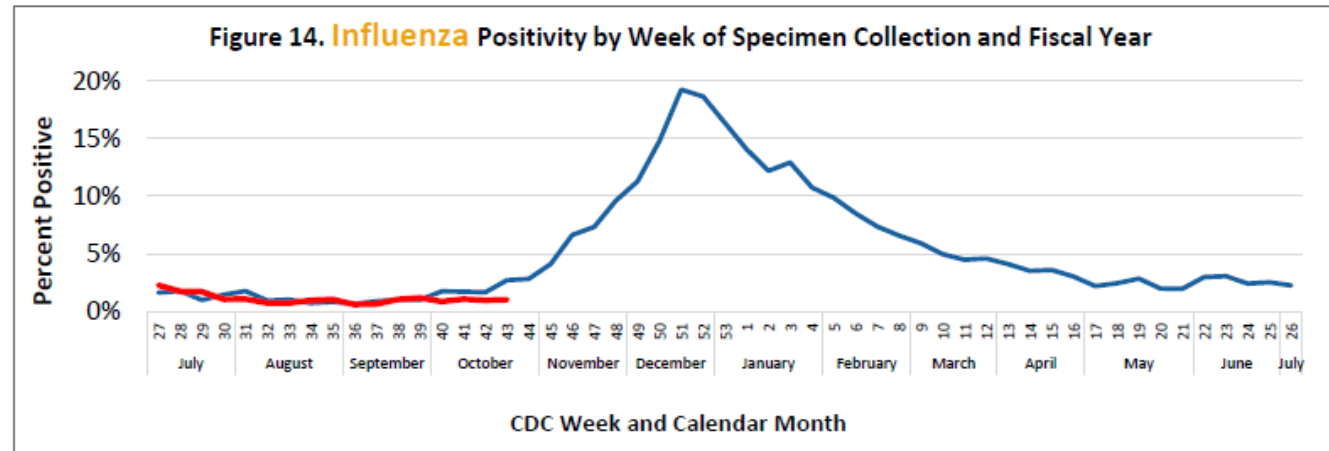
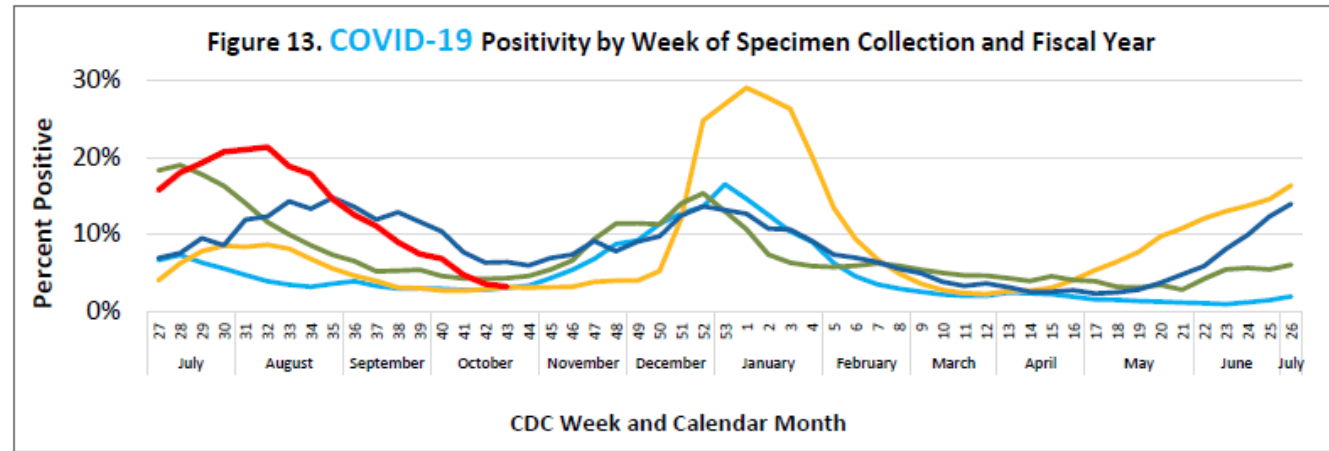
Seema Shah, M.D., M.P.H.  
Interim Deputy Public Health Officer  
Public Health Services



# Respiratory Virus Surveillance

## Testing Positivity

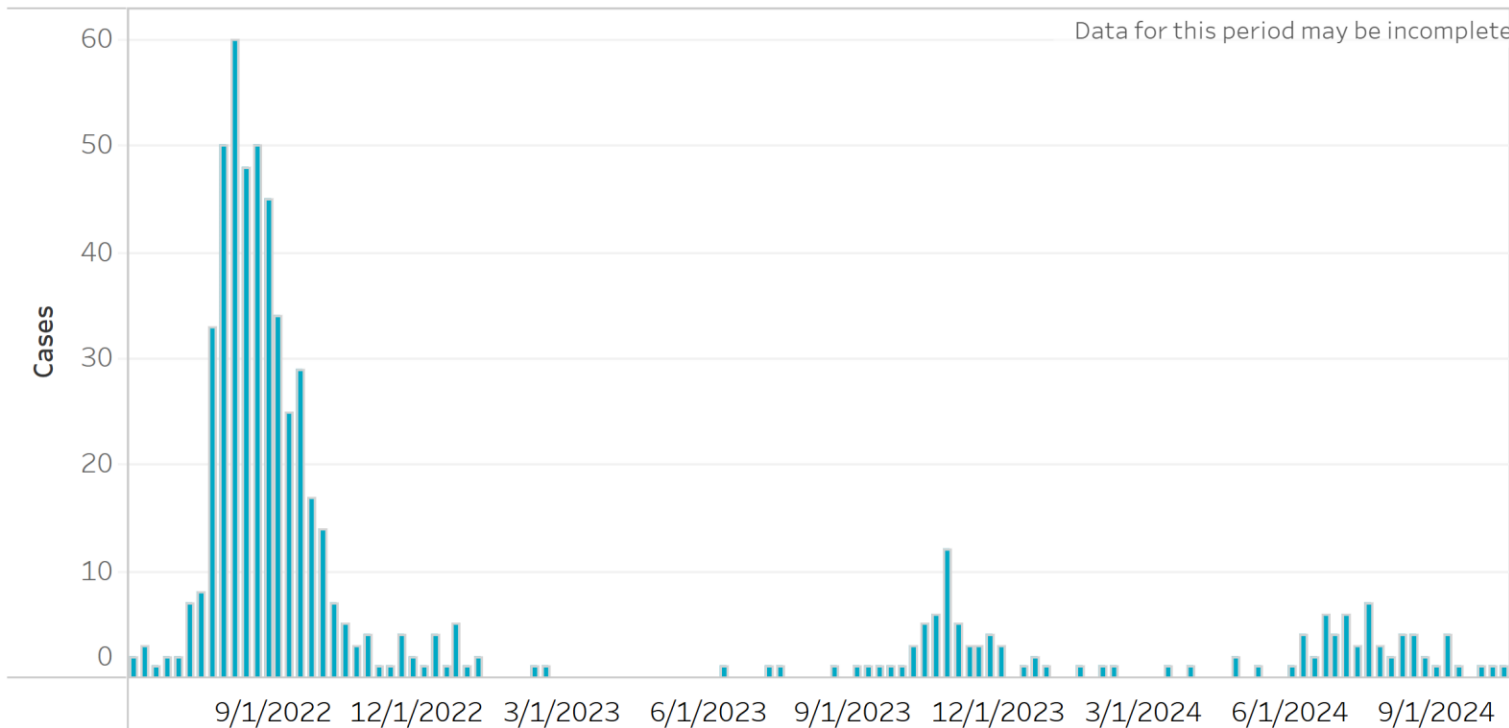
— 2024-25 — 2023-24 — 2022-23 — 2021-22 — 2020-21



# Mpox

Cumulative Cases*	Cases Since Last Report	Cumulative Hospitalizations	Cumulative Deaths
595	0	23	1

MPOX Confirmed and Probable Cases\* by Episode Date,^ San Diego County



Effective 6/25/2024, data are updated weekly on Tuesdays.  
Data through 10/26/2024. Last updated 10/29/2024.



# Dengue

HEALTH

## County Reports Second Locally Acquired Dengue Case



By [Fernanda Lopez Halvorson](#), County of San Diego Communications Office

Oct. 25, 2024 | 8:45 AM



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# Tijuana River Valley Crisis Response

## Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER)

- Interview households to assess short-term and ongoing impacts on their lives
- Information distributed to almost 7,000 households in early October
- Conducted household interviews October 17-19
- Results are pending CDC analysis and clearance



# Tijuana River Valley Crisis Response

## Assessment of Chemical Exposures (ACE) Survey

- CDC/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
- Interview people who work in high exposure areas or come in frequent contact with sewage pollution
- Exposure histories, related symptoms, health impacts, health services used, and medical history will be elicited
- 1000+ surveys completed!

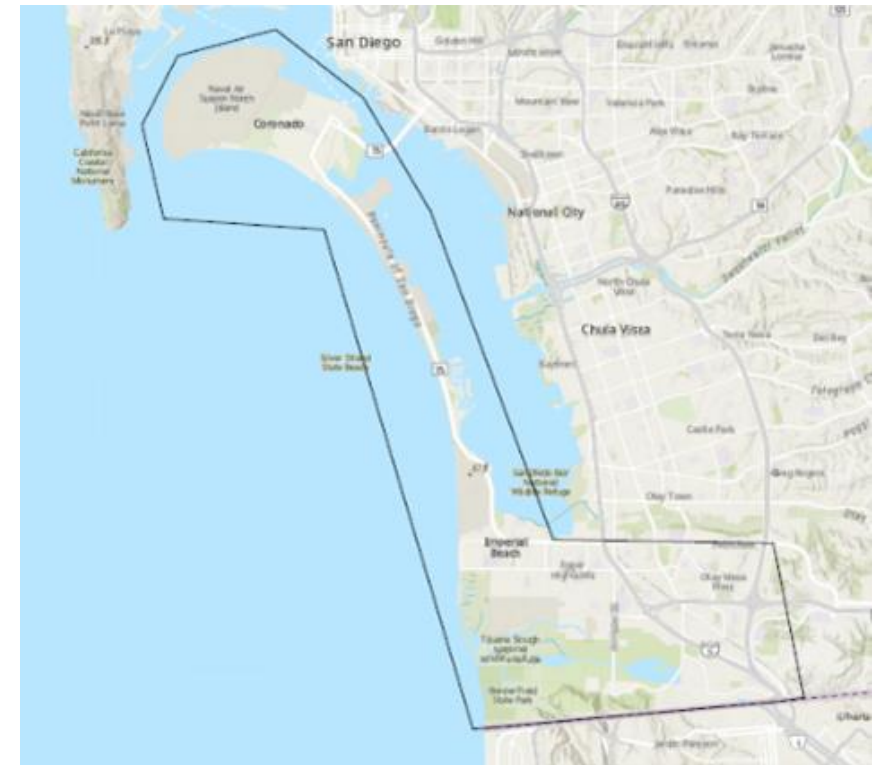


# Tijuana River Valley Crisis Response

## Assessment of Chemical Exposures Survey

- Started October 21st, goes through November 22nd
- Online in English and Spanish

QR Code







# Public Health Director Update

Elizabeth A. Hernandez, Ph.D.  
Public Health Director  
Public Health Services



# Agency Organizational Changes



**Merger of the department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities (HSEC) into several Agency departments.**

- Office of Homeless Solutions will become part of Housing and Community Development Services
- The Office of Equitable Communities will join with the Office of Strategy and Innovation
- The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs will join Self Sufficiency Services

**Merger of Public Health Services Department and Medical Care Services Department.**



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# Public Health Services

## BOARD LETTER FORECAST

<b>Board Meeting Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>
December 10, 2024	Single Source Procurements of Equipment and Supplies for DiaSorin
January 7, 2025	Single Source Procurement of Equipment and Supplies for Hamilton

# Media/Community Events

Targeted Date and Time	Description & Location of Event
November 2023 and ongoing	Perinatal Equity Initiative (PEI) radio ads run on local radio stations, Z90 and Magic 92.5. Digital banners pop up on high-traffic websites. Both the radio and digital ads are played for the target audience and will redirect listeners and viewers to the Black Legacy Now website.
June 2024 and ongoing	PEI creatives (brochures, door hangars, and postcards) are being distributed in the community to promote educating African-American mothers on the importance of advocating for equitable and dignified maternity health treatment for themselves and their babies.
November 21, 2024	CCS FACT Family Meeting
December 5, 2024	African American/Black Outreach Planning Meeting



# Highlights

## New Performance Improvement Manager

- On September 20, Nora Bota was appointed as the Performance Improvement Manager for the Office of Performance and Improvement Management in PHS.



## PHS Abstracts Selected for Presentation at APHA 2024 Conference

- 64 PHS staff contributed to the abstracts and posters that were accepted for presentation
- APHA has approved 8 oral presentations and 12 poster presentations



**APHA 2024**  
ANNUAL MEETING & EXPO  
Minneapolis | Oct. 27-30

# PHS Presentations for APHA 2024

O = Oral Presentation  
P = Poster Presentation

## Community Health Statistics Unit

1. Promoting health equity and addressing life expectancy gaps in San Diego - Christopher O'Malley (O)
2. Identifying health and well-being disparities within the LGBTQ population in San Diego County – Chris O'Malley (O)
3. Medical encounters due to excessive heat in San Diego County – Isabel Corcos (O)
4. Empowering local farms to fight food insecurity in San Diego County – Catherine Mahoney (O)
5. Disparities in life expectancy by economic hardship at the community level in San Diego County – Chris O'Malley (O)
6. Spatial analysis of trends in hypertension prevalence and rates of medical encounter and death from hypertensive and coronary heart diseases, in San Diego County – Isabel Corcos (P)
7. Mortality among people experiencing homelessness in San Diego County – Chris O'Malley (P)
8. Health and well-being of non-Hispanic Asian residents in San Diego county – Niki Quach (P)
9. The sustainable, equitable, and local food sourcing policy: Achieving a county government values-based food sourcing policy to improve health and the regional food system – Catherine Mahoney (P)
10. Evaluation of water quality in San Diego County: A focus on drinking water contaminants, groundwater threats & impaired bodies percentiles – Chris O'Malley
11. The impact of COVID-19 on chronic disease mortality metrics in San Diego County  
Rachelle De Ocampo (P)



# PHS Presentations for APHA 2024

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## Immunizations Team

12. Routine childhood vaccination coverage rates for children aged 16 to 40 months in San Diego County: Comparison between California immunization registry and random digit dialing survey (2021-2022) – Sahar Nafez-Sabzwari (O)
13. Predictors of newly approved respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) monoclonal antibody receipt: An analysis of healthy places index (HPI) and demographic factors – Danelle Wallace (O)
14. Real-time surveillance for gastrointestinal illness after Tijuana River flooding events , San Diego County, February 2024 – Audrey Kennar (O)

## Epidemiology Team

15. Enhancing hepatitis c surveillance in San Diego County – Meghan Johnson (P)
16. Surveillance evaluation of Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF) in San Diego concern of zoonotic origin in border regions – Jacquelyn Aramkul (P)



# PHS Presentations for APHA 2024

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## Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Evaluation Unit AND

### *Maternal, Child, and Family Health Services*

17. Piloting the Text2LiveHealthy messaging program for CalFresh nutrition education delivery to promote healthy behaviors in SNAP recipients – Sarina Martinez Benavidez (P)
18. Building, mobilizing, and sustaining partnerships to address health disparities in communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 in San Diego County – Sarina Martinez Benavidez (P)

### *Child Health and Disability Prevention*

19. SLAQ to plan: Utilizing the site-level assessment questionnaire to plan interventions in early childcare education – Gustavo Barraza (P)
20. Leveraging partnerships to link care coordination with school-based oral health services in a rural community – Gustavo Barraza (P)





# Highlights

## PHS Highlighted in APHA and SDCMS October Newsletters

- **American Public Health Association (APHA) Summer 2024 Newsletter**
  - [One Health Epidemiology Program of San Diego County – Linking Human and Animal Health](#) by Emily Trumbull, DVM, Sarah Stous, MPH, Julie Breher, DVM, MPVM, Catherine Blaser, MPH, RN, PHN, ACRN, CIC, Erik A. Berg, MD, Mark Beatty, MD, MPH, Jeffrey Johnson, MPH, & Seema Shah, MD, MPH
- **San Diego County Medical Society (SDCMS) October Newsletter**
  - [Chagas Disease is Now Reportable in San Diego County: What You Need to Know](#) by Meghan Villalobos, MPH, Audrey Kennar, MSPH, BSN, RN, Mark Beatty, MD, MPH, & Paula Stigler Granados, PhD, MS
  - [County of San Diego One Health Epidemiology Program — Links Human and Animal Health](#) by Emily Trumbull, DVM, Sarah Stous, MPH, Julie Breher, DVM, MPVM, Catherine Blaser, MPH, RN, PHN, ACRN, CIC, Erik A. Berg, MD, Mark Beatty, MD, MPH, Jeffrey Johnson, MPH, & Seema Shah, MD, MPH



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# Health Services Advisory Board Meeting



# Thank you!



*The Public Health Services department, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, has maintained national public health accreditation, since May 17, 2016, and was re-accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board on August 21, 2023.*