



Chelan-Douglas Health District

200 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health Regular Meeting Minutes – February 26, 2024

Board Members Present (quorum):

Jerrilea Crawford, Chair (5)
Kevin Overbay (1)
Marc Straub (4)
Marissa Smith (7)
Alma Chacon (9)
Joseph Hunter (11)

Shon Smith, Vice Chair (2)
Dan Sutton (3)
Sharon Waters (6)
Bindu Nayak (8)
Bill Sullivan (10)

Board Members Absent:

Non-Voting Alternate Board Members Present:

Michael Peterson (7)

Carin Smith (9)

Staff Present:

Luke Davies, Health Administrator
Kristen Hosey, Deputy Director
Cari Hammond, Personal Health Director
Dr. James Wallace, Interim Health Officer

Diane Forhan, Fiscal Director
Erin McCool, CDHD Attorney
Hollie Casey, Clerk of the Board
Brian Dickey, EHS II

Public Present –

The meeting was held in person and via zoom and phone conferencing with members of the public attending and listening to the meeting.

Meeting –

Chair Jerrilea Crawford called the meeting to order at 3:00PM and requested the Board Clerk to take attendance.

Approval of Agenda (13:10) –

Chair Crawford requested to amend the agenda to include an Executive Session to discuss Qualifications for Public Employment after Board Discussion. Dan Sutton moved to approve the agenda with the amendment of an Executive Session (RCW 42.30.110(g)) for Qualification for Public Employment after Board Discussion on the agenda. Kevin Overbay seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment (13:46) –

Chair Crawford explained that 20 minutes has been set aside for public comment and asked for those present in person and via Zoom who wanted to speak during public comment to identify themselves. Once Chair Crawford identified the number of members of the public that wanted to speak, she allotted three minutes to each presenter.

- Laurie Buhler of Douglas County, Scott Watkins of Douglas County, Theresa Drollman of Chelan County, and Lisa Templeton of King County each shared their concerns about the COVID vaccines.

Consent Agenda (29:14) –

- Approval of the January 22, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of January Payroll in the amount of \$308,776.98
- Approval of January Benefits in the amount of \$106,986.58
- Approval of Payment of 2024 Vouchers No. 20240039-20240127 in the amount of \$191,802.51

Kevin Overbay moved to approve the Consent Agenda with an amendment to an abstention under the Consent Agenda in the January Board Minutes. The amendment will be to correct the abstention to Sutton. Marc Straub seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Board discussion followed.

New Business (33:33) –

- 2024 Revised Budget (33:38) (Action Item)
Diane Forhan, Fiscal Director, explained the District is requesting the Board to approve an increase in the revenue of \$390,524 and increase in expenses of \$35,390 for the 2024 budget.

Kevin Overbay moved to approve the 2024 Revised Budget. Joseph Hunter seconded, and one (Sullivan) abstained due to a previous objection that Member Sullivan had with the February Grant Amendment last month. The motion carried.

- 2024 Capital Improvements Budget (36:35) (Action Item)
Diane Forhan, Fiscal Director, asked the Board to review the provided Capital Improvements Budget breakdown of costs. The District previously approved the use of \$1,062,581 in ARPA funding for Capital Improvements and now requested the Board to approve up to \$555,952 of District funds out of the reserve account for the remaining Capital Improvements that the ARPA funding does not cover. Board discussion followed.

Alma Chacon moved to approve the 2024 Capital Improvements Budget and allow the District to use up to \$555,952 of District reserves for Capital Improvements. Joseph Hunter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- BOH Venue Change (1:06:31)
Luke Davies, Health Administrator, explained to the Board that research was done on a couple of local venues, and it appears that the Aging and Adult Care facility will be the best fit for the Board meetings moving forward. The Executive Team previously discussed the venue options and agreed to move the Board meetings to the new venue beginning in March. The District will send out the update of the BOH change in venue via all media platforms and on the District's

website. The Board Clerk will update the venue address with the Members. Board discussion followed.

d. Employee Manual for Review for March Approval (1:10:17)

Luke Davies, Health Administrator, noted that the manual was sent out electronically this morning for the Board to have time to review it. It will be discussed at the March Board meeting as an action item. Luke explained that 2010 was the last time the manual was updated. This is intended to be put into place and have it reviewed and updated every other year. Erin McCool, CDHD Legal Counsel, offered to compile any questions that the Board Members may have to review at the March Board meeting. Board discussion followed.

e. Smoke Resiliency (1:13:18) (Action Item)

Luke Davies, Health Administrator, reviewed the smoke resiliency handout that was given at the meeting. Luke requested the Board to review the smoke resiliency plan and to allow the Board Executive Team to move forward with approving the plan to address 2024 smoke issues in the valley. Board discussion followed.

Bindu Nayak moved to approve the District to secure funding and approve the Smoke Resiliency Plan as presented. Sharon Waters seconded, and Board discussion followed. The motion passed unanimously.

f. Surplus Vehicle (1:39:22) (Action Item)

Diane Forhan, Fiscal Director, explained that the District has received the two new vehicles, one 2024 Ford Maverik for the Environmental Health Department and one 2024 Ford Explorer. The District is looking to surplus the 2012 Ford Escape 147,636 miles to send to auction. Board discussion followed.

Marc Straub moved to approve the District sending the 2012 Ford Escape to auction. Dan Sutton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Health Officer Report (1:40:48) –

Interim Health Officer, Dr. James Wallace

Dr. James Wallace gave a brief review of respiratory illness activity nationally and statewide. Dr. Wallace also reviewed the Pertussis outbreak that is occurring locally and compared cases statewide. Dr. Wallace shared what the District's role is when an outbreak occurs. Board discussion followed.

Reports (1:58:05) –

Brian Dickey, EHS II (1:58:07)

Brian Dickey, EHS II, reviewed the presentation that was provided to the Board, and explained that his role at the Health District is in the Solid Waste program, within Environmental Health. Brian conducts

inspections of inert landfills and shared that two of the bigger projects that he is monitoring are the Bridgeport Landfill and the Alcoa Demolition Plant. Board discussion followed.

Luke Davies, Health Administrator (2:15:34)

Health Administrator, Luke Davies, gave highlights from the Administration portion of his report. There was a \$14,000 server licenses contract to prevent them from going off-line. The District contracted with a recruiter for the Fiscal Director position in the amount of \$11,500. The Executive Team approved the District to work with NASH Consulting to assist with work force development that will cover onboarding and professional development programs and management and leadership training and coaching totaling \$49,440. Luke wrapped up his update by thanking the Board and his staff for all their hard work.

Board Discussion (2:24:52) –

a. Succession Planning for Health Administrator (2:24:58) (action Item)

Board Chair Crawford explained to the Board the process that was used when the current Health Administrator (HA) was hired. The Chair stated that the current Deputy Director, Kristen Hosey, is interested in filling the HA position, however, this would leave the Deputy Administrator position open. The Chair expressed that she would like to get the process started to get the HA position posted and hopefully filled quickly. The Chair requested to go to an Executive Session to discuss the qualification for public employment.

Marc Straub moved to go into Executive Session at 5:18 to discuss the qualifications for public employment to come back into session by 5:30. Shon Smith seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session: Discuss Qualifications for Public Employment- RCW 42.30.110(g)

The Board went into Executive Session at 5:18pm to return to open session at 5:30pm. At 5:30pm the Board requested 5 more minutes. At 5:35pm, the Board meeting continued in regular session.

Bill Sullivan moved to approve Kristen Hosey as the Interim Health Administrator and to compensate Kristen Hosey at the current compensation of the Health Administrator. Marc Straub seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Transition Support (2:32:38) (Action Item)

Board Chair Crawford noted that the current Health Administrator, Luke Davies, has offered to work as a consultant for up to three months, for up to 20 hours per week, and not to exceed \$36,000.

Dan Sutton moved to authorize the Executive Team to move into a Consulting Contract with Luke Davies, for a term of three months, at \$150 an hour, with no more than 20 hours a week, and not to exceed \$36,000. Joseph Hunter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Jerrilea Crawford declared the meeting adjourned at 5:43pm.



Jerrilea Crawford, Board Chair



Hollie Casey, Clerk of the Board

2024 Smoke Resiliency Project Plan W/ Draft Budget:

With funding from EPA, DNR, and Intercounty Work Order to conduct Smoke Resiliency work for Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan, Kittitas, North East Tri-County, and Lincoln County.

Activities to include coordinating regional smoke planning and response. This will include updating emergency plans and response for Smoke events, partnering with CBO's for smoke vulnerability assessments and community education, air monitor and filter procurement and distribution, and regional long term planning for climate related health risks. It also includes continued grant writing and resources to improve air quality and respond to future climate related risks.

Funding Sources:

EPA Subcontract through Chelan County DNR (\$100,000 2024)

- April/May 1st, 2024 to September 2026 (\$359,656 total funding through 2026)
- Federal funding (EPA) subcontracted through
- Chelan County DNR Subcontract to Finalize.
- Indirect rate 10% or Direct Cost

Washington State Department of Natural Resources Interagency Agreement (\$400,000)

- January 1st, 2024 to June 30th 2024 (Possibility to have an additional \$300,000 for July 2024 to July 2025 for a total funding of 700,000)
- State House Bill Funding
- Interagency Agreement with Washington State Department of Natural Resources to finalize.

Partner County Contributions (\$75,000 for 2024 with potential for 2025 and 2026 contributions) -

- January 1st, 2024 to December 31st, 2024 (Possibility to continue in 2025 and 2026).
- Local Okanogan (\$25,000), Grant (\$25,000), Kittitas (\$25,000) work orders to finalize.

Funding		
EPA Grant - FEDERAL		100,000
DNR Grant - State		400,000
Local -		75,000
Kittitas County	25,000	
Grant County	25,000	
Okanogan County	25,000	
Total Funding		575,000

Staffing Request:

Hire fulltime Position based on temporary funding for NCW Climate Resiliency Regional Director March 2024 – PHPS III classification + Supervisory Position

Authorize 50% clerk position to aid in logistics and operations activities.

Contract:

- 1) Finalize CDHD Contract with Elizabeth Walker to close out work done January-February 2024 \$24,000 Board Authorization needed, covered by Washington DNR funding.
- 2) Expanded Vulnerability Assessment for North Central Washington of \$120,000 (Partnership with OVOF and Cascadia’s smoke vulnerability assessment being done for Chelan and Douglas Counties through CHAI).
- 3) Subcontract out to NE Tri and Lincoln Counties for smoke filter supply procurement and distribution \$75,000.

Expenses:

- 1) Outreach Supplies and Filters (\$78,500)
- 2) Travel (\$2,177)
- 3) EPA Supplies and communication activities (\$31,695)

Expenses		
Salary/Benefits		152,965
Walker Contract Jan/Feb/March		24,000
EPA travel		2,177
EPA Subcontract		2,916
EPA Supplies		31,695
DNR - to NE Tri		50,000
DNR - to Lincoln		25,000
DNR - Expanded Vulnerability Assessment		120,000
DNR - Outreach Supplies		78,500
Indirects @ 27.21%		86,324
Total Expenses		573,577
Balance		1,423



Chelan-Douglas Health District

200 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Chelan-Douglas Health District Health Officer Update

James Wallace, MD, MPH

February 26th, 2024

Chelan-Douglas Health Officer Update

Respiratory Illness Activity

- National & state epidemiology reflects continued downtrend in activity
- ED visits, hospitalizations, outbreaks overall decreasing
- NCW has higher rates of respiratory illness than WA

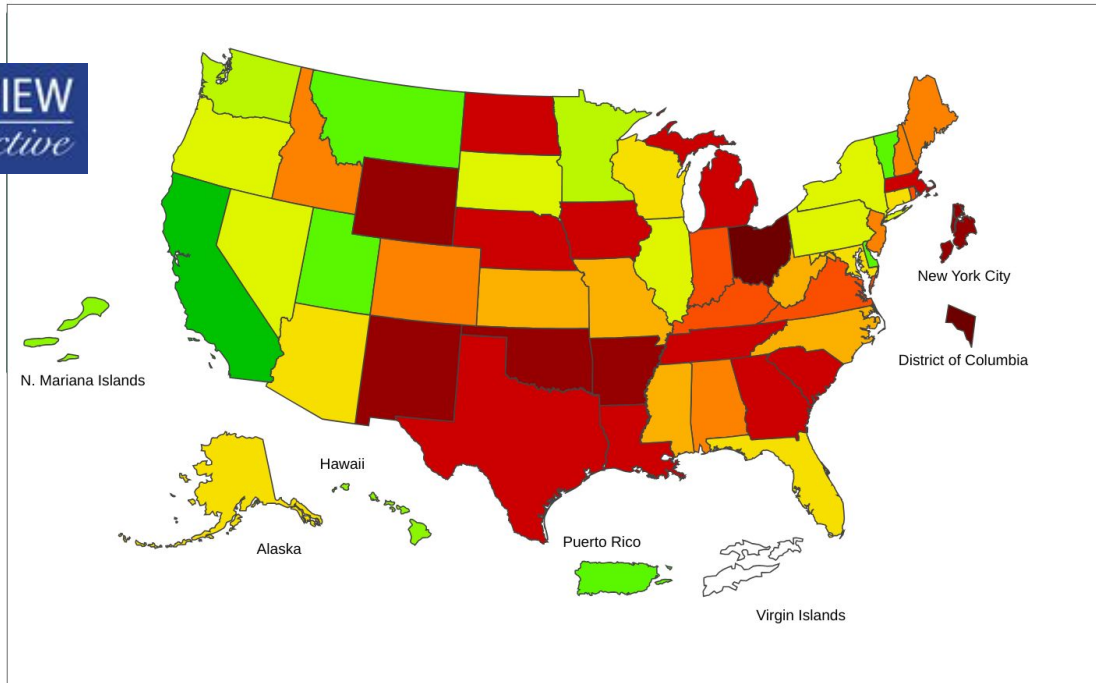
Pertussis Outbreak

- 13 pertussis (whooping cough) cases identified in school-age children
- Ongoing investigation with collaboration from healthcare, schools & state communicable disease partners

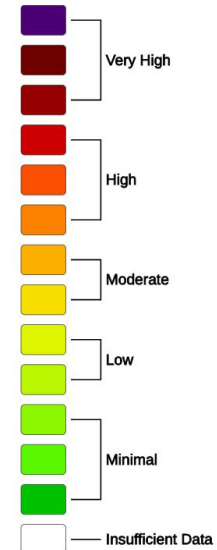
Respiratory Disease Activity: National Trends

2023-24 Influenza Season Week 7 ending Feb 17, 2024

FLUVIEW
interactive



ILI Activity Level

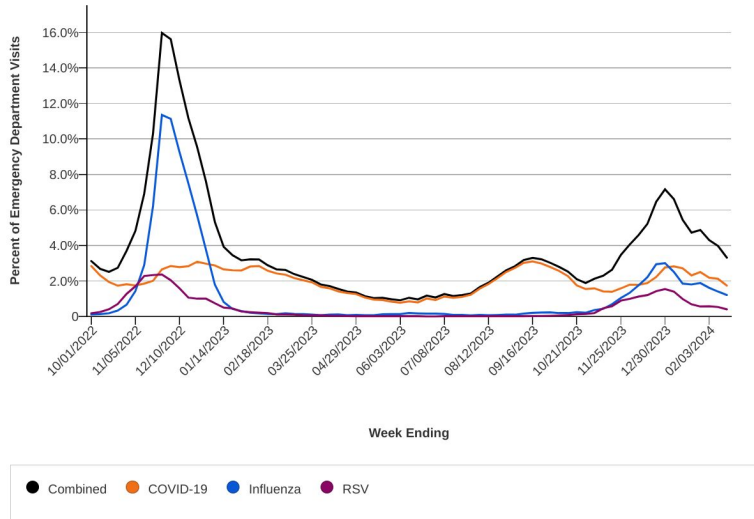


<https://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/fluview/main.html>

WA Respiratory Disease Activity

Emergency Department Visits for Viral Respiratory Illness

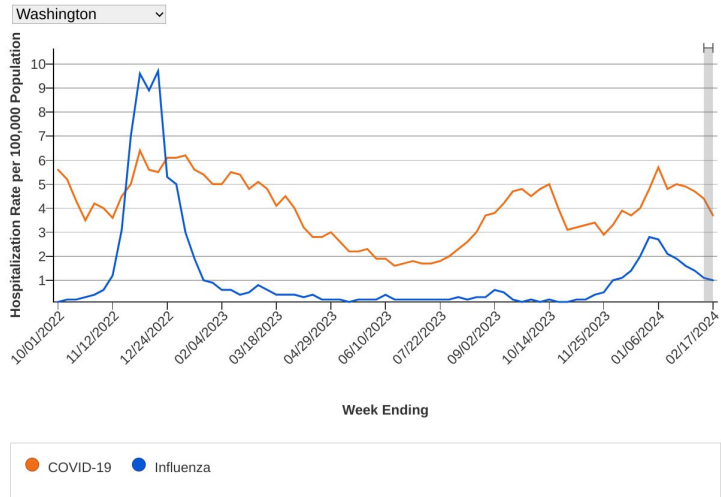
Weekly percent of total emergency department visits associated with COVID-19, influenza, and RSV.



Data presented through: 02/17/2024; Data as of: 02/21/2024

COVID-19 and Influenza Hospitalization Rates

Weekly (7-day total) hospitalization rates reported per 100,000 population. RSV hospitalizations are not included in this dataset (see footnotes). Preliminary data are shaded in gray.



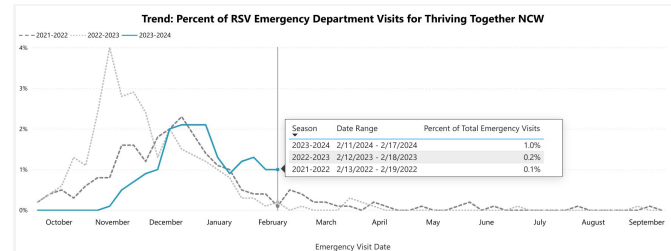
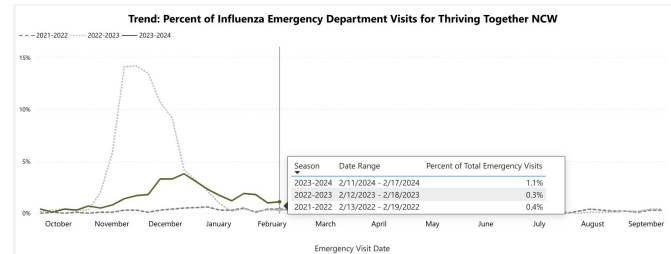
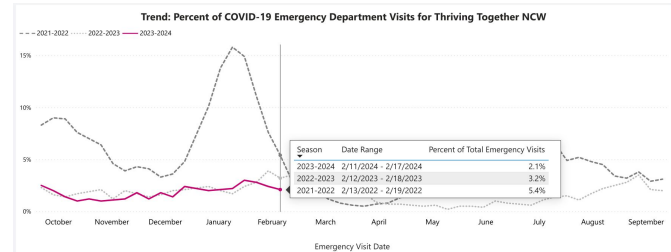
WA RSV hospitalizations peaked at 4.1 per 100,000, now at 1.0

Respiratory Disease Activity: North Central WA

NCW Respiratory Illness Epi

- **COVID-19** = 2.1% of ED visits
 - Seasonal threshold = 4%
- **Influenza** = 1.1% of ED visits
 - Seasonal threshold = 4%
- **RSV** = 1.0% of ED visits
 - Seasonal threshold = 0.5%
- COVID-19 wastewater surveillance increased over the past month
- Respiratory illness outbreaks continue but are overall decreasing in long-term care facilities
- Investigation & response continue for other severe respiratory illnesses

<https://doh.wa.gov/data-and-statistical-reports/diseases-and-chronic-conditions/communicable-disease-surveillance-data/respiratory-illness-data-dashboard>



Respiratory Disease Activity: North Central WA

NCW Respiratory Illness Epi

- **COVID-19** = 2.1% of ED visits
 - Seasonal threshold = 4%
- **Influenza** = 1.1% of ED visits
 - Seasonal threshold = 4%
- **RSV** = 1.0% of ED visits
 - Seasonal threshold = 0.5%
- COVID-19 wastewater surveillance increased over the past month
- Respiratory illness outbreaks continue but are overall decreasing in long-term care facilities
- Investigation & response continue for other severe respiratory illnesses

Percent of Respiratory Disease Related Emergency Visits by Region

Information shown below is for the most recent week with complete data.

Location	COVID-19	Flu	RSV
Statewide	1.7	1.2	0.4
Better Health Together	1.5	1.3	0.7
Cascade Pacific Action Alliance	2.3	0.9	0.2
Elevate Health	1.4	1.1	0.2
Greater Health Now	1.8	1.1	1.2
Healthier Here	1.7	1.5	0.2
North Sound	1.8	1	0.2
Olympic Community of Health	1.7	1.1	0.4
Southwest Washington	1.4	0.9	0.3
Thriving Together NCW	2.1	1.1	1

<https://doh.wa.gov/data-and-statistical-reports/diseases-and-chronic-conditions/communicable-disease-surveillance-data/respiratory-illness-data-dashboard>

Pertussis Outbreak

Bordetella pertussis (Whooping Cough)

Symptoms

1. Catarrhal (1-2 wk) - mild URI symptoms
2. Paroxysmal (1-6wk) - severe coughing episodes
3. Convalescent (2-6 weeks or longer) - gradual resolution

Complications

- apnea, pneumonia, seizures, encephalopathy, death in infants
- 50% of infants are hospitalized (apnea, pneumonia)
- vaccine protects from severe symptoms

Transmission

- respiratory droplets
- attack rate 25-80%, depending on immunity
- incubation period up to 21 days
- contagious at least 21 days after cough develops

Case Definition

Confirmed: Acute cough illness with positive culture or PCR

Probable: Acute cough illness with epi-link AND >2wk duration, paroxysms, or inspiratory whoop, or post-tussive emesis, or nocturnal worsening

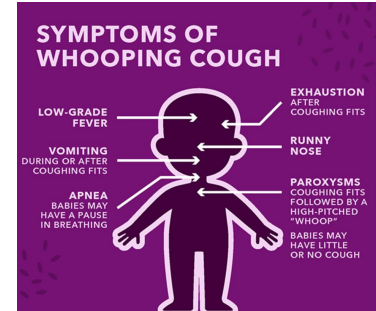
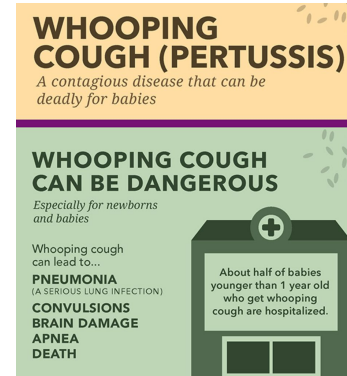
Suspect: cough without qualities above, or without epi link

Treatment

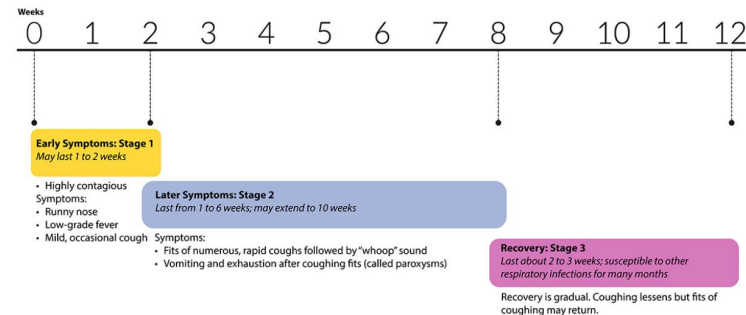
Antibiotic treatment (macrolide or sulfamethoxazole-trimethoprim)

Prevention

- 5d isolation of cases (duration of abx)
- Antibiotic post-exposure prophylaxis
- Vaccination (acellular pertussis vaccine)
- Droplet precautions & respiratory hygiene



Whooping Cough Disease Progression



Pertussis Outbreak

Pertussis Epidemiology

- 400-1,000 annual cases in WA
- 2012 - 4,918 cases
- Chelan County 0-10 annual cases

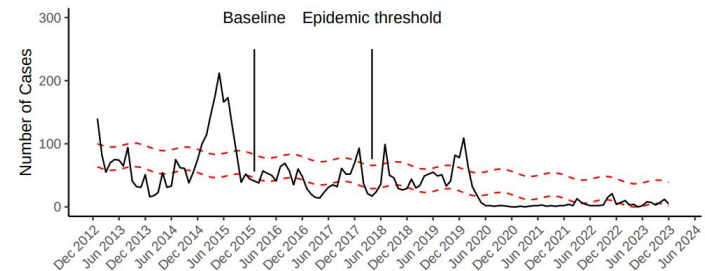
Public Health Approach

- reliant on accurate reporting
- case investigation, contact tracing
- protect health of high-risk individuals
- prophylaxis to household and high-risk contacts
- collaboration with healthcare, schools and childcare providers
- promote community-wide prevention

Table 2: WA State Pertussis Cases by County, 2023 weeks 1 - 52

County	Number of Cases	OFM 2020 Population	Rate per 100,000 persons
King	24	2,260,801	1.1
Clark	14	499,193	2.8
Pierce	10	900,697	1.1
Whatcom	9	228,002	3.9
Kitsap	3	272,197	1.1
Snohomish	3	830,503	0.4
Skagit	2	130,453	1.5
Island	1	85,529	1.2
Okanogan	1	43,135	2.3
Whitman	1	50,485	2.0

Figure 2: WA State Pertussis Cases Reported by Month and Year (black) with Projected Baseline and Epidemic Thresholds (red dashed lines), 2013-2022, with YTD 2023 data overlaid



Pertussis Outbreak

Chelan County - February 26, 2024

- February 2 - notified of first suspected case
 - Began case investigation
- February 12 - first test confirmed with lab result
 - Expanded contact tracing
 - DOH Pertussis consultation

Current Case Numbers

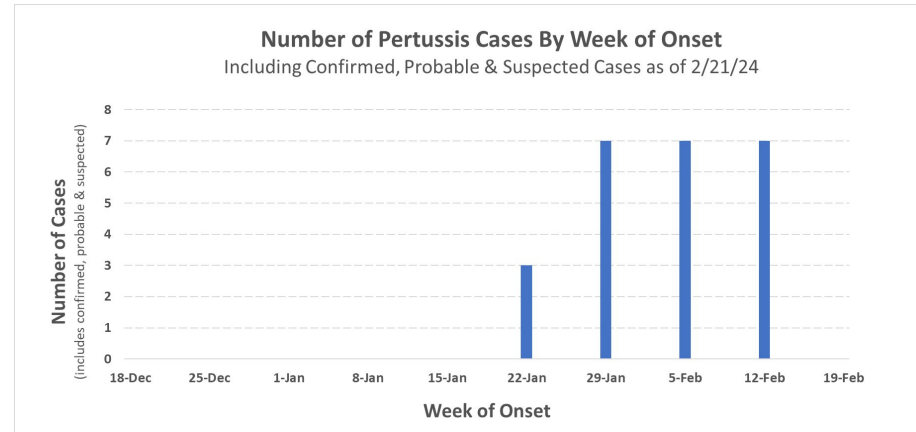
- 13 total cases
- 18 suspected cases, awaiting further investigation

Healthcare Collaboration

- Testing/treatment resources & provider alerts

Communications

- General press release
- Healthcare preparedness updates



Chelan-Douglas Health Officer Update

Respiratory Illness Activity

- National & state epidemiology reflects continued downtrend in activity
- ED visits, hospitalizations, outbreaks overall decreasing
- NCW has higher rates of respiratory illness than WA

Pertussis Outbreak

- 13 pertussis (whooping cough) cases identified in school-age children
- Ongoing investigation with collaboration from healthcare, schools & state communicable disease partners