IOWA’S LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH

IN IOWA, **LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES (LPHA)** ARE VITAL FOR ENSURING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF COMMUNITIES IN ALL 99 COUNTIES.

**WHO: WORKFORCE**

- **90%** Female directors
- **35%** Directors are 55+ years of age
- **96%** Directors identify as white
- **48%** of agencies have 3-10 FTE (Full Time Equivalent) staff
- **9%** of agencies have 1 or 2 FTE

**WHAT: SERVICES**

Each county Board of Health determines the unique needs of their community.

**Examples of services include:**

- Investigation of Public Health Diseases
- Public Health Education
- Childhood Immunization Audits
- Emergency and Disaster Preparation
- Mother and Child Health Services
- Home Care Support (Non-Medicare)
- Medicare Certified Home Health Care

**WHERE: STRUCTURE**

Local Boards of Health decide if public health services will be offered by county employees or if they will contract with other health organizations to provide services on their behalf.

**WHEN: EVERYDAY**

Public health touches each of us every single day. Things like clean water, vaccinations for children, motor vehicle safety, and smoke free air are all examples of public health at work in the community.

**WHY: IOWA CODE CHAPTER 137**

Iowa Code defines the structure, powers, and duties of local boards of health. Board of Health members are unpaid volunteers and are appointed by the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

- Average years of service for Board of Health Chairs: **12**
- Average years of service for Board of Health Members: **7**
- Counties with BOS as Board of Health members: **56**

**HOW: RESOURCES**

Local Public Health Agencies are sustained in different ways. County tax dollars help support local public health. Please contact your local public health agency to learn more about how they are funded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County Tax Allocation Range</th>
<th>% of Counties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;$50,000</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,001-$200,000</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200,001-$400,000</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$400,001-$600,000</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$600,001-$800,000</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>$800,001-$1,000,000</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1,000,001-$3,000,000</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;$3,000,000</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data from FY21 Local Public Health Systems Survey

**A listing of local public health agencies can be found at [idph.iowa.gov/lphs/local-public-health-agencies](http://idph.iowa.gov/lphs/local-public-health-agencies).*