



# Epi Monthly

November 2023 Vol 24, Issue 11

**Public Health LOOK OUT!**

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County

- Join in observing **National Safe Toys and Gifts Month** in **December!** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CSPC), in the recent years, has created a stringent toy safety system that requires testing by independent, third party testing laboratories around the world. The goal is to ensure the confidence of American families as they begin to shop for toys this holiday season. Visit [child-familyservices.org](http://child-familyservices.org) to learn more!
- **National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW)** is observed from December 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>! NIVW is observed annually to remind everyone 6 months and older that there is still time to get vaccinated against the flu. Because flu viruses are changing so often and protection from vaccination decreases over time, getting a flu vaccine every year is the best way to prevent flu. Visit [cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov) for more information!
- **World AIDS Day** is observed on December 1<sup>st</sup>. World AIDS Day is a global movement that has united people in the fight against HIV and AIDS since 1988. This movement brings light on the real experiences of those living with HIV today, while celebrating the strength and diversity of those communities mostly impacted. For more information visit [worldaidsday.org](http://worldaidsday.org)!

For the most recent information on COVID-19 in Florida please visit: <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/>

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Click the image to the left to watch the video.

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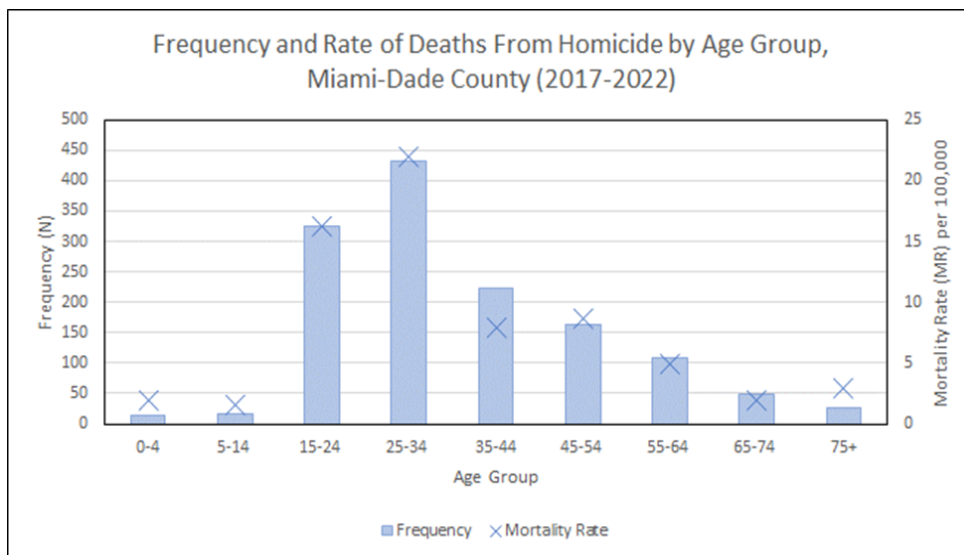



By: Kelsey Bricker, MPH

**Background**

Compared to the state of Florida, Miami-Dade County has a higher rate of homicides.<sup>1</sup> In Miami-Dade County from 2017-2022, persons 25-34 years had a higher rate homicide compared to other age groups (Figure 1). The purpose of this analysis is to explore the demographic characteristics and geographic regions in Miami-Dade County that have a high rate of homicide within this age group from 2017-2022.

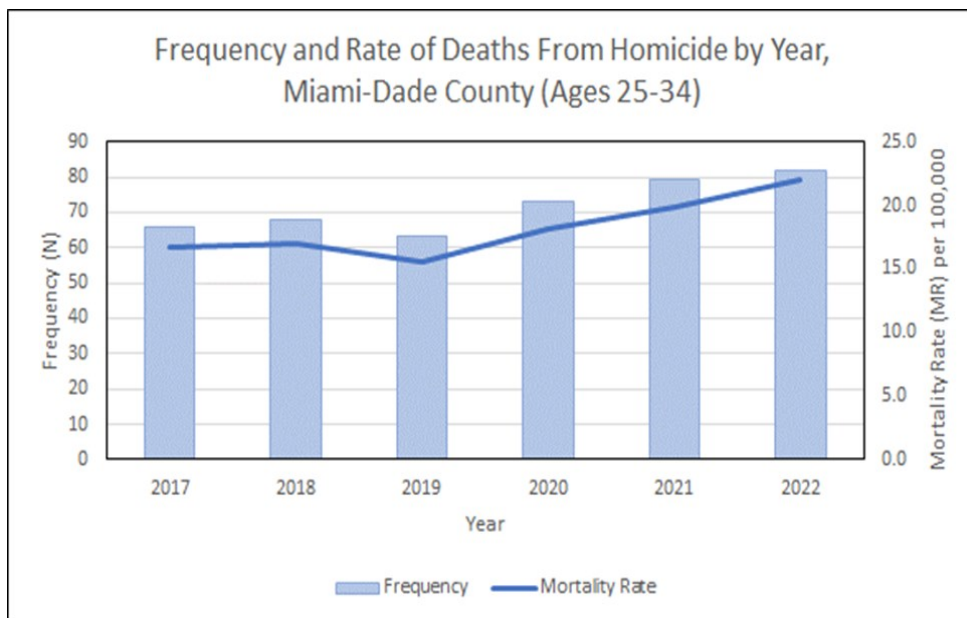
Figure 1. Frequency and Rate of Deaths From Homicide by Age Group, Miami-Dade County (2017-2022)



**Methods**

Death certificate data between 2017-2022 was analyzed to explore homicides for ages 25-34 years in Miami-Dade County. Homicides were identified using International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10) codes: X85-Y09, Y871. Mortality rate was calculated per 100,000 population using population estimates from Florida Charts. The statistical analysis was conducted using SAS 9.4. To examine the frequency of homicides per square mile, ArcGIS Pro 3.03 was used.

Figure 2. Frequency and Rate of Deaths From Homicide by Year, Miami-Dade County (Ages 25-34)



**Results**

*Time series*

From 2017-2022, there were a total of 431 deaths due to homicide among adults 25-34 years old, which accounted for 32% of all homicide deaths in Miami-Dade County. The rate of homicides decreased from 16.7 in 2017 to 15.6 in 2019 but increased to 22.0 by 2022 (Figure 2).

Figure 3. Frequency and Rate of Deaths From Homicide by Gender, Miami-Dade County (Ages 25-34)

**Gender**

From 2017-2022, males had a higher frequency and mortality rate per 100,000 population of homicides compared to females (Figure 3). The frequency for males increased by 32% from 57 in 2017 to 75 in 2022. The mortality rate steadily increased from 28.4 in 2017 to 31.3 in 2021, but greatly increased to 39.9 in 2022. The frequency and mortality rate of homicides fluctuated for females. The frequency increased by 67% from 9 in 2017 to 15 in 2021 but decreased to 7 in 2022. The homicide rate for followed similar trends and increased from 5.1 in 2020 to 7.7 in 2021 but decreased to 3.8 in 2022 (Figure 3).

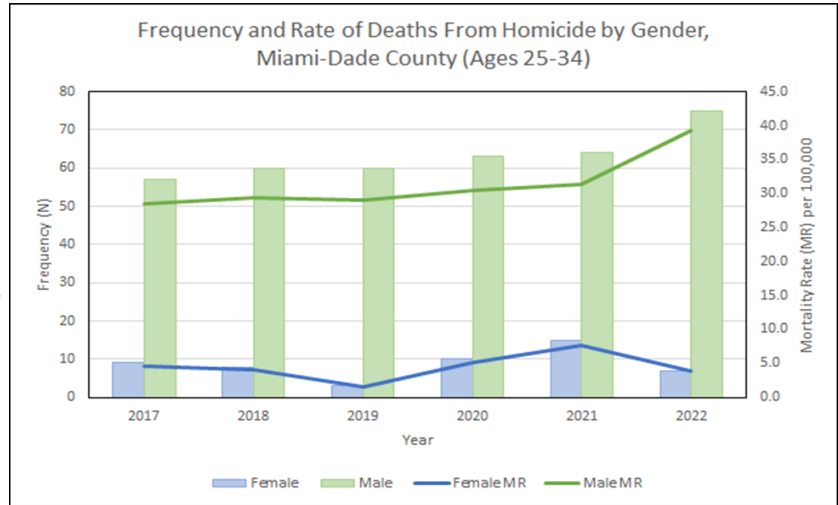


Figure 4. Frequency and Rate of Deaths From Homicide by Race/Ethnicity, Miami-Dade County (Ages 25-34)

**Race and Ethnicity**

The Non-Hispanic Black population had a higher frequency and homicide rate between 2017 and 2022. The frequency increased by 20% from 40 in 2017 to 48 in 2022. The mortality rate within this population increased from 56.0 in 2017 to 75.1 in 2022 (Figure 4). Next, the frequency of homicides decreased by 60% from 2017 to 2021 for the Non-Hispanic White population. The homicide rates for Non-Hispanic Whites decreased from 9.1 in 2017 to 3.9 in 2022. The Hispanic population experienced the highest percentage increase (33%) from 21 in 2017 to 28 in 2022. Among the Hispanic population, the highest homicide rate was 11.5 per 100,000 population in 2022.

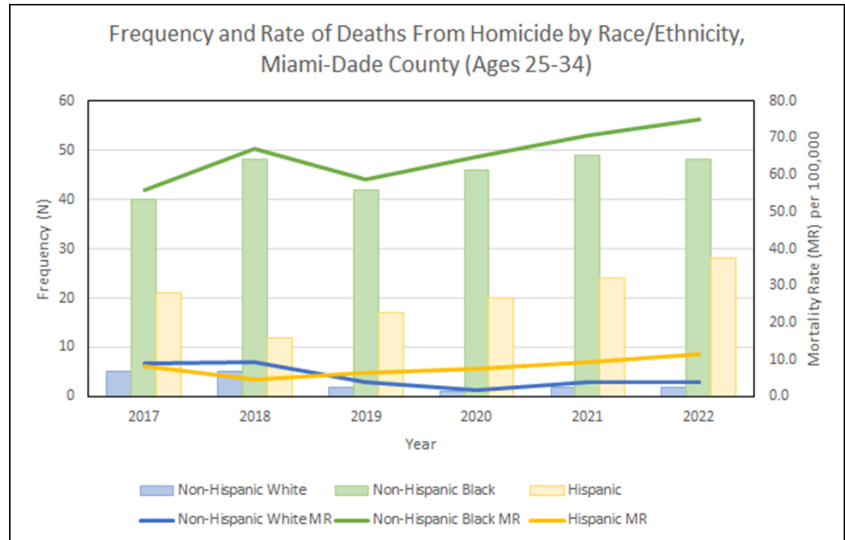
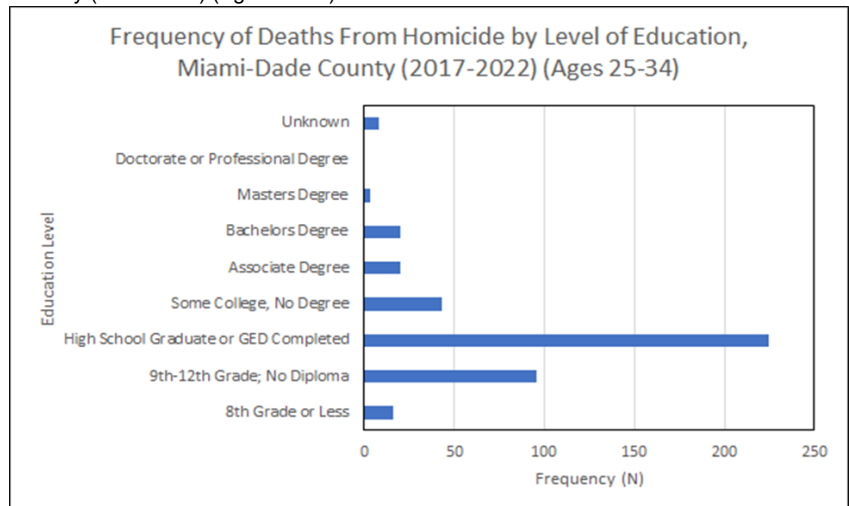


Figure 5. Frequency of Deaths From Homicide by Level of Education, Miami-Dade County (2017-2022) (Ages 25-34)

**Educational attainment**

Adults who graduated high school or obtained a Graduate Equivalency Degree (GED) had the highest proportion of homicides (52%, 225/431). Next, those who have a 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade education but no high school diploma accounted for 22% (96/431) of all homicides (Figure 5).



**Areas of Homicide-Related Deaths & Weapon Used**

The high-density map shows the location of homicides in Miami-Dade County from 2017-2022 (Figure 6). The highest frequency of deaths per square mile occurred in the city of Miami and surrounding neighborhoods. Firearm homicide was the leading cause of death among adults 25-34 years old compared to other methods of homicide (88%, 381/431) (Figure 7).

**Discussion**

While Miami-Dade County continues to improve the health outcomes of its residents, the problem of homicide remains a public health concern. Findings from this data analysis indicate that among all age groups, ages 25-34 years have a higher rate of homicides. Homicide mortality for this age group decreased from 2017-2019 but increased from 2020-2022. The largest yearly increase of homicides occurred in 2020, which aligns with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nationwide, the homicide rate increased by 30% from 2019 to 2020, the highest increase in US history.<sup>2</sup> Next, within this age group, Non-Hispanic Blacks are disproportionately affected by homicides compared to other race and ethnicities. In comparison to females, males had a higher rate of homicides. Lastly, the highest frequency of deaths by homicide occurred in areas with higher levels of poverty. Previous findings indicate that lower income is a contributing factor in homicide deaths.<sup>3</sup>

Figure 6. High Density Areas of Homicide Deaths, Miami-Dade County (Ages 25-34) (2017-2022)

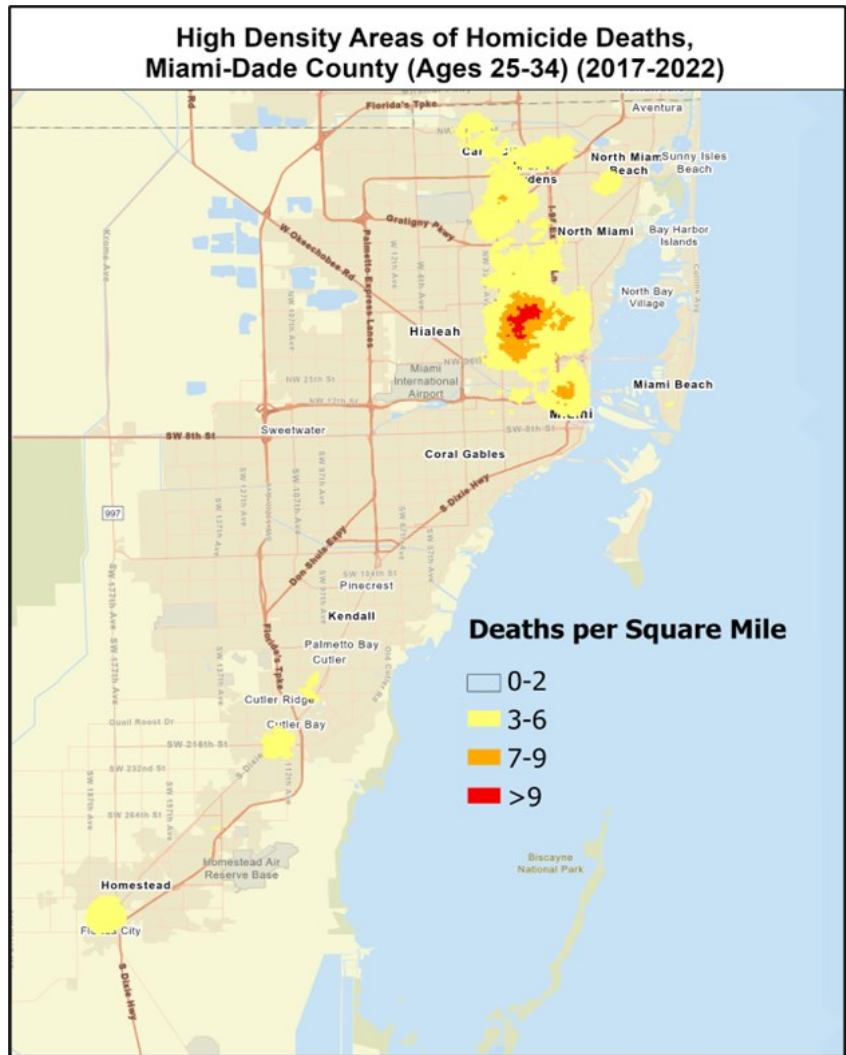
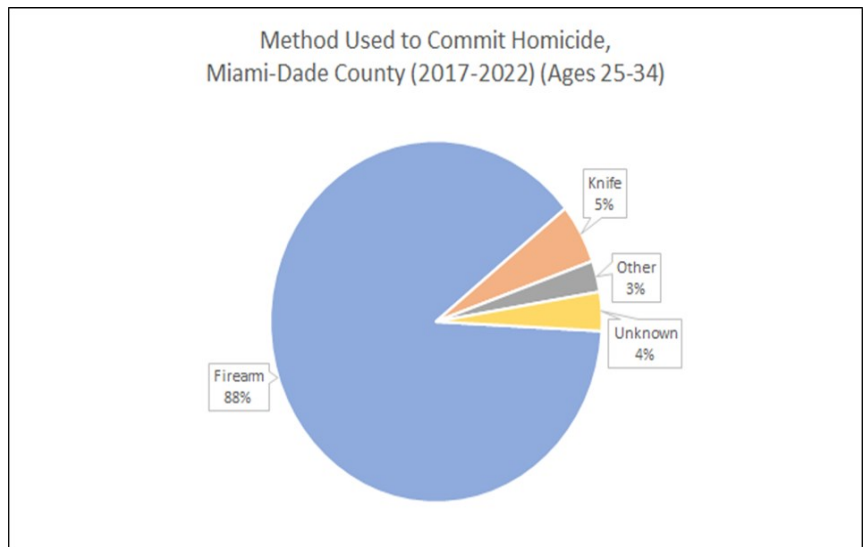


Figure 7. Method Used to Commit Homicide, Miami-Dade County (2017-2022) (Ages 25-34)





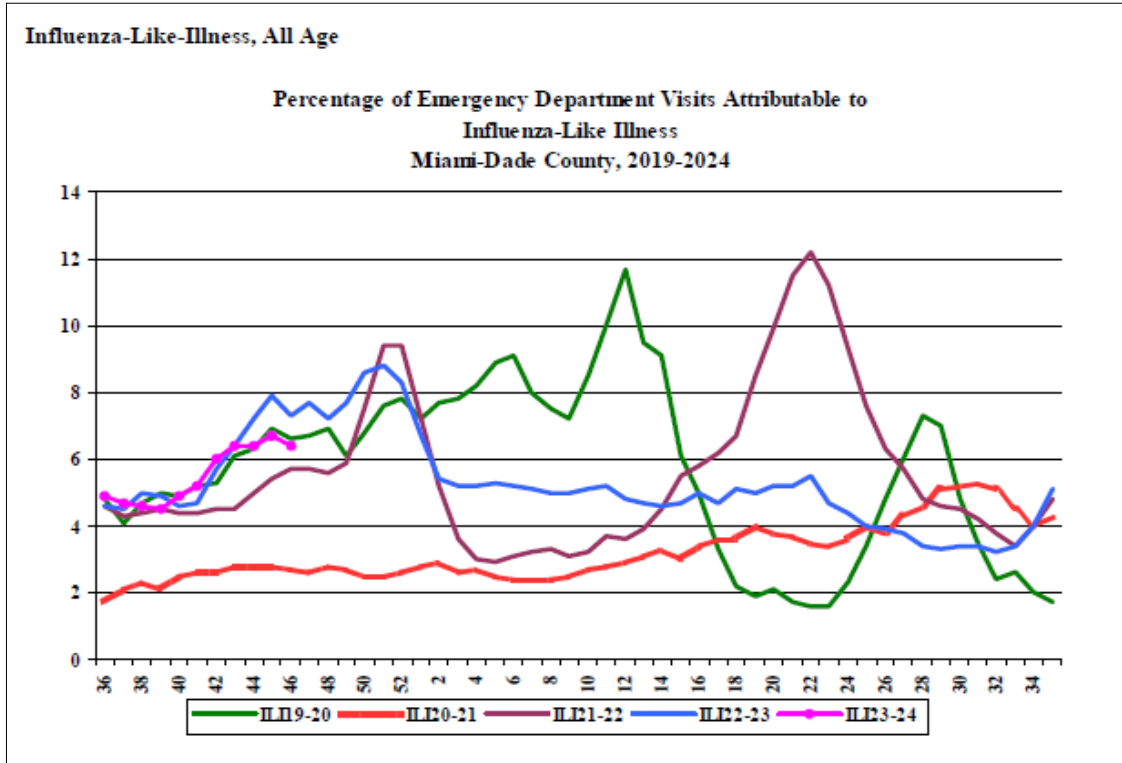
## References

1. Florida Department of Health - FLHealthCHARTS. Deaths From Homicide. Accessed October 4, 2023. <https://www.flhealthcharts.gov/ChartsDashboards/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=Death.DataViewer&cid=0118>.
2. New CDC/NCHS data confirm largest one-year increase in U.S. homicide rate in 2020. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. October 6, 2021. Accessed October 4, 2023. [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs\\_press\\_releases/2021/2021110.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2021/2021110.htm).
3. Gobaud AN, Mehranbod CA, Dong B, Dodington J, Morrison CN. Absolute versus relative socioeconomic disadvantage and homicide: A spatial ecological case-control study of US ZIP Codes. *Injury Epidemiology*. 2022;9(1). doi:10.1186/s40621-022-00371-z

## Epidemiology, Disease Control and Immunization Services

### Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County

On a daily basis, all of Miami-Dade County's emergency department (ED) hospitals electronically transmit ED data to the Florida Department of Health. This data is then categorized into 11 distinct syndromes. The influenza-like illness (ILI) syndrome consists of fever with either cough or sore throat. It can also include a chief complaint of "flu" or "ILI". This season's 2023-2024 data is compared to the previous 4 influenza seasons (2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023).



There were 37,821 ED visits; among them 2,400 (6.4%) were due to ILI. During the same week last year, 7.3% of ED visits were ILI.

### PARTICIPATE IN INFLUENZA SENTINEL PROVIDER SURVEILLANCE

#### Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County NEEDS Influenza Sentinel Providers!

Sentinel providers are key to the success of the Florida Department of Health's Influenza Surveillance System. Data reported by sentinel providers gives a picture of the influenza virus and ILI activity in the U.S. and Florida which can be used to guide prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care.

- Providers of any specialty, in any type of practice, are eligible to be sentinel providers.
- Most providers report that it takes **less than 30 minutes a week** to compile and report data on the total number of patients seen and the number of patients seen with influenza-like illness.
- Sentinel providers can submit specimens from a subset of patients to the state laboratory for virus isolation **free of charge**.

For more information, please contact

**Marianella Siria** at 305-470-6918.



## Miami-Dade County Monthly Report Select Reportable Disease/Conditions October 2023

Diseases/Conditions	2023 Current Month	2023 Year to Date	2022 Year to Date	2021 Year to Date
<b>HIV/AIDS</b>				
AIDS*	23	324	350	347
HIV	105	1189	1513	1099
<b>STD</b>				
Infectious Syphilis*	49	209	560	531
Chlamydia*	1441	13573	12026	11880
Gonorrhea*	700	6111	5261	5214
<b>TB</b>				
Tuberculosis**	8	125	110	77
<b>Epidemiology, Disease Control &amp; Immunization Services</b>				
<b>Epidemiology</b>				
Campylobacteriosis	68	667	554	483
Chikungunya Fever	0	0	0	0
Ciguatera Poisoning	3	23	8	17
Cryptosporidiosis	5	87	59	49
Cyclosporiasis	1	33	70	19
Dengue Fever	114	365	520	3
Escherichia coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	30	233	174	102
Encephalitis, West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0
Giardiasis, Acute	27	254	235	93
Influenza, Pediatric Death	0	0	0	0
Legionellosis	5	37	37	49
Leptospirosis	0	0	1	1
Listeriosis	0	4	5	9
Lyme disease	1	14	11	5
Malaria	2	7	3	5
Meningitis (except aseptic)	0	6	7	11
Meningococcal Disease	0	1	8	5
Salmonella serotype Typhi (Typhoid Fever)	0	5	0	1
Salmonellosis	210	1205	1159	919
Shigellosis	20	228	151	59
S. Pneumoniae, invasive disease	3	77	70	48
Vibriosis	2	34	33	21
West Nile Fever	0	0	0	0
Zika Virus (non-congenital)	0	0	0	0
<b>Immunization Preventable Diseases</b>				
Measles	0	1	0	0
Mumps	0	0	5	3
Pertussis	1	7	5	0
Rubella	0	0	0	0
Tetanus	0	0	0	0
Varicella	1	30	29	16
<b>Hepatitis</b>				
Hepatitis A	0	17	27	7
Hepatitis B (Acute)	1	63	80	32
<b>Healthy Homes</b>				
Lead Poisoning	65	425	325	92

\*Data is provisional at the county level and is subject to edit checks by state and federal agencies.

\*\* Data on tuberculosis are provisional at the county level.

Data on EDC-IS includes Confirmed and Probable cases.

For more information access: [The Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County Reportable Disease Handbook](#)

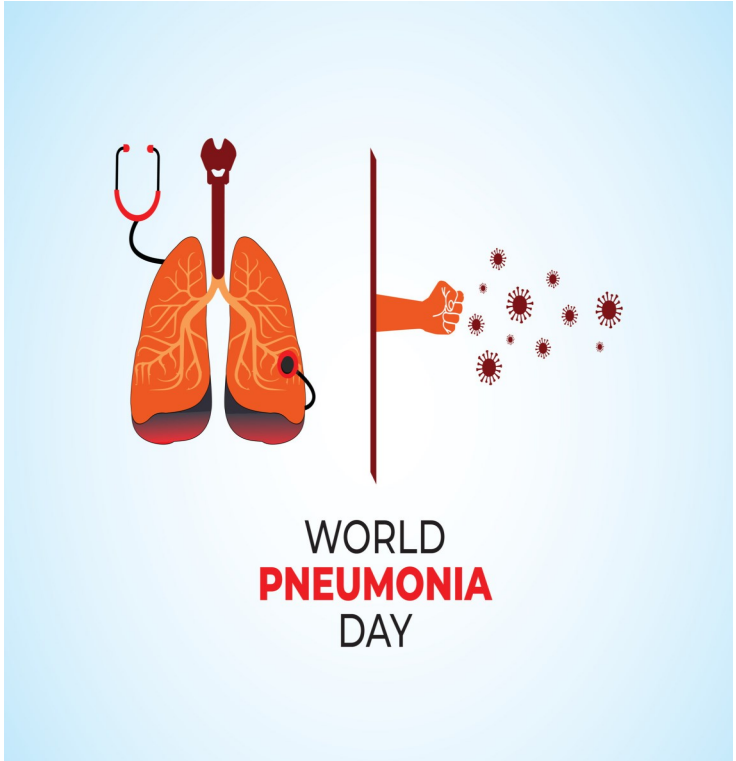
## What's New at DOH-Miami-Dade!

- Tobacco Free spaces in Miami-Dade County safeguard the health of our children, support those aiming to overcome tobacco addiction, and keep our community clean. Tobacco Free Florida in Miami-Dade County congratulates multiple cities in Miami-Dade County in adopting a tobacco free parks and/or beaches ordinance. Visit [miamidade.floridahealth.gov](http://miamidade.floridahealth.gov) to learn more!
- **Hurricane season** is from June 1 to November 30. It is important that all Miami-Dade County residents plan ahead! Emergency supplies should be fully stocked by June 1. For more information visit [miamidade.gov](http://miamidade.gov) !
- DOH Miami-Dade offers COVID-19 vaccines, vaccine boosters, pediatric vaccines, and flu shots. Visit [miamidade.floridahealth.gov](http://miamidade.floridahealth.gov) for clinic locations and appointments!



To report disease and for information, call EDC-IS at:

<b>Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program</b>	<b>305-470-6877</b>
<b>Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance</b>	<b>305-470-5660</b>
<b>Hepatitis Program</b>	<b>305-470-5536</b>
<b>HIV/AIDS Program</b>	<b>305-470-6999</b>
<b>Immunization Services</b>	<b>305-470-5660</b>
<b>STD Program</b>	<b>305-575-5430</b>
<b>Tuberculosis Program</b>	<b>305-575-5415</b>
<b>Appointment Line</b>	<b>786-845-0550</b>



### About the Epi Monthly

The Epi Monthly Report is a publication of the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County: Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services. The publication serves a primary audience of physicians, nurses, and public health professionals. Articles published in the Epi Monthly Report may focus on quantitative research and analysis, program updates, field investigations, or provider education. For more information or to submit an article, please contact Kelsey Bricker at (305) 470-5660.

