

Epi Monthly

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Public Health LOOK OUT!

Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County

- Join in observing **National Breast Cancer Awareness Month** in **October**. Among American women, breast cancer is the most common cancer. Many women experience different symptoms while others do not experience any symptoms at all. Certain risk factors include getting older, genetic mutations, reproductive history, and family history of breast cancer. Breast cancer screening options should be provided by your health care provider. Find more resources on breast cancer screening at [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).
- **Mental Illness Awareness Week (MIAW)** is observed from October 1st to October 7th. Mental illness affects everyone directly or indirectly. Congress officially established the first week of October as MIAW in 1990. Advocates work together to sponsor activities and educate the public about mental illness. Visit [NAMI.org](https://www.nami.org) to learn more!
- **Global Handwashing Day** is observed globally on **October 15th**. This campaign seeks to raise awareness and understanding about the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent disease. Recent years show an increase in hand hygiene and action. Global Handwashing Day provides opportunities to design, test, and replicate innovative ways to encourage individuals to wash their hands with soap. Find out more at [globalhandwashing.org](https://www.globalhandwashing.org).

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

In This Issue

Public Health Lookout	1
Alcohol-Related Deaths in Miami-Dade County, 2010-2022	2-5
EDC-IS Influenza Respiratory Illness Surveillance Report	6
Select Reportable Diseases and Conditions for August 2023	7
What's New at DOH - Miami-Dade	8

1

Introduction to Early-Onset Breast Cancer & Risk Factors



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Background

Alcohol-related fatality is the fourth-leading preventable cause of death in the United States behind tobacco, poor diet, physical inactivity, and illegal drugs.¹ Excessive alcohol use was responsible for more than 140,000 deaths in the United States each year during 2015–2019, or more than 380 deaths per day.² Some research indicates alcohol consumption and related deaths also increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁻⁹ The purpose of this study is to explore the demographic and geographic characteristics of alcohol-related deaths in Miami-Dade County from 2010 to 2022.

Methods

Death certificate data between 2010-2022 was used to explore alcohol-related deaths for ages 21 years and older in Miami-Dade County. International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10), F10, was used to identify alcohol-related deaths within all cause-of-death diagnoses fields. Population estimates were obtained from Florida Health Charts to calculate mortality rate per 100,000 population. SAS 9.4. and ArcGIS Pro 3.03 were used to perform the data analysis and create a density map of death distribution after geocoding address match in Miami-Dade County.

Results

Time Series

There were 2,058 alcohol-related deaths, between 2010 and 2022, in Miami-Dade County for ages 21 years and older. Although the highest frequencies of alcohol-related deaths occurred in 2021, the largest percent increase occurred from 2019 to 2020 (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Alcohol-Related Deaths in Miami-Dade County, 2010-2022

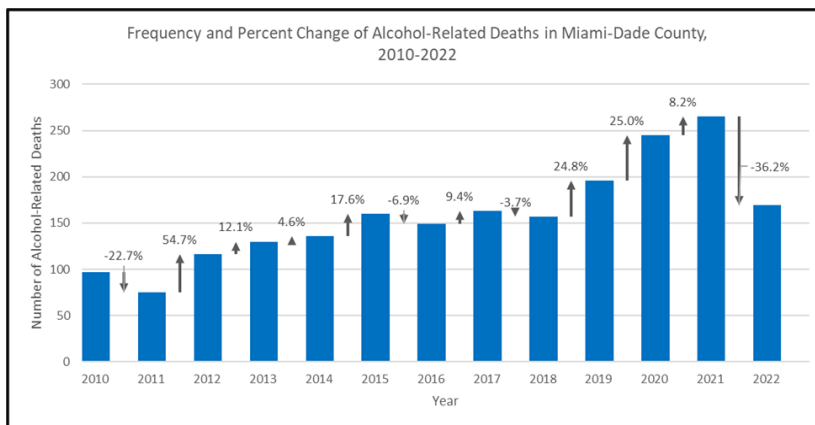
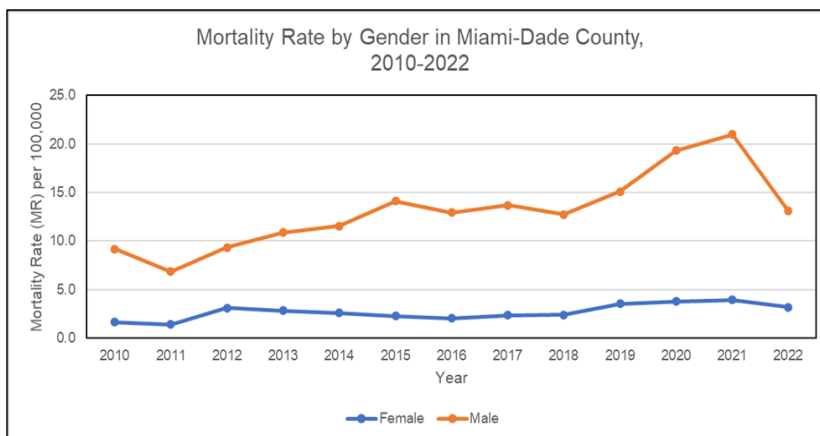


Figure 2. Mortality Rate by Gender in Miami-Dade County, 2010-2022

Gender

From 2010-2022, males had a higher frequency of alcohol-related deaths and mortality rate per 100,000 population compared to females (Figure 2). For males, the mortality rate increased from 15.1 in 2019 to 19.3 in 2020, which was the largest year-to-year increase in alcohol-related mortality since 2010. For both genders, the mortality rate was highest in 2021 compared to prior years. The mortality rate per 100,000 population was 21.0 for males and 4.0 for females.



Race and Ethnicity

While the Hispanic population accounted for 49% of the total alcohol-related deaths in Miami-Dade County, the Non-Hispanic White population had the highest mortality rate per 100,000 population (Figure 3,4). The mortality rate was 15.6 for Non-Hispanic Whites, 9.9 for Non-Hispanic Blacks, 5.3 for Hispanics, and 3.9 for Non-Hispanic Others.

Age Group

From 2010-2022, the age group with the highest mortality rate was adults 55-64 years old. The mortality rate of alcohol-related deaths per 100,000 population was 16.0 for ages 55-64 followed by 11.7 for ages 65-74.

Education Attainment

Between 2010 and 2022, adults with less than a high school education accounted for 18% of alcohol-related deaths, and high school graduates with no college degree accounted for 40% of alcohol-related deaths. Lastly, those with a bachelor's degree and above accounted for 15% of deaths, and some college education accounted for 17% of deaths (Figure 6).

Distribution of Cases in Miami-Dade County

Figure 7 shows geographical locations of alcohol-related deaths within Miami-Dade County from 2020 to 2021. Although deaths are seen throughout Miami-Dade County, high density areas of alcohol-related deaths occurred in central Miami area.

Figure 3. Mortality Rate by Race/Ethnicity in Miami-Dade County, 2010-2022

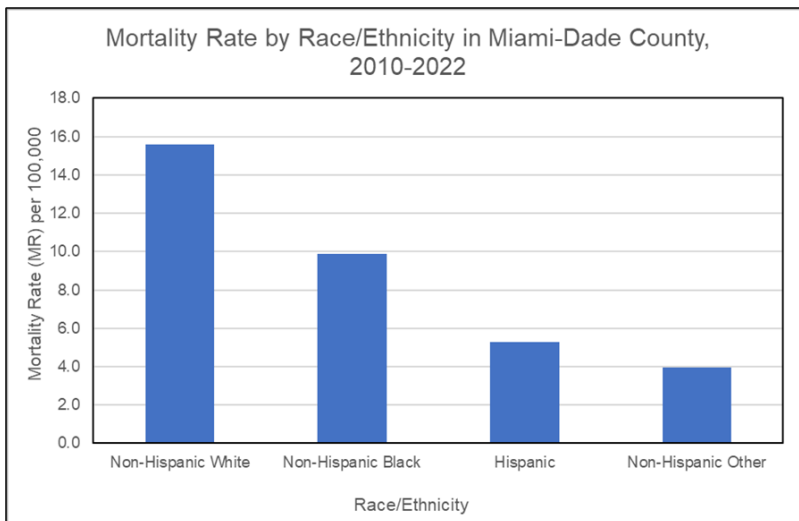


Figure 4. Proportion of Alcohol-Related Deaths by Race/Ethnicity in Miami-Dade County (2010-2022)

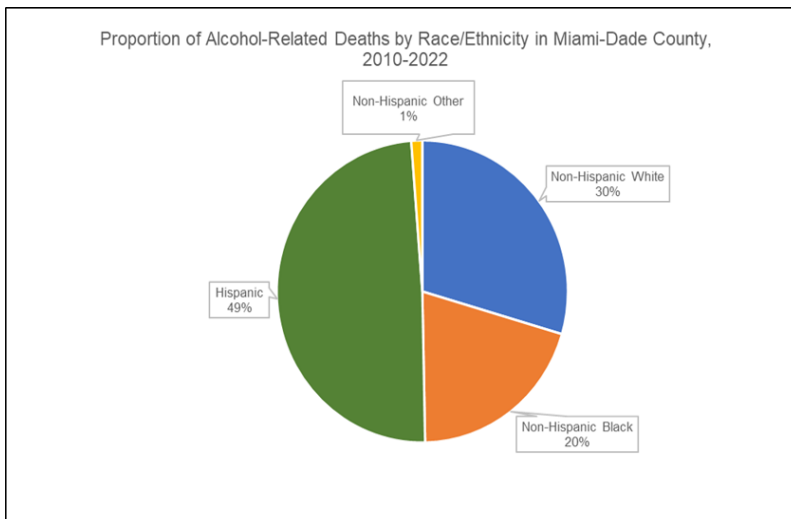
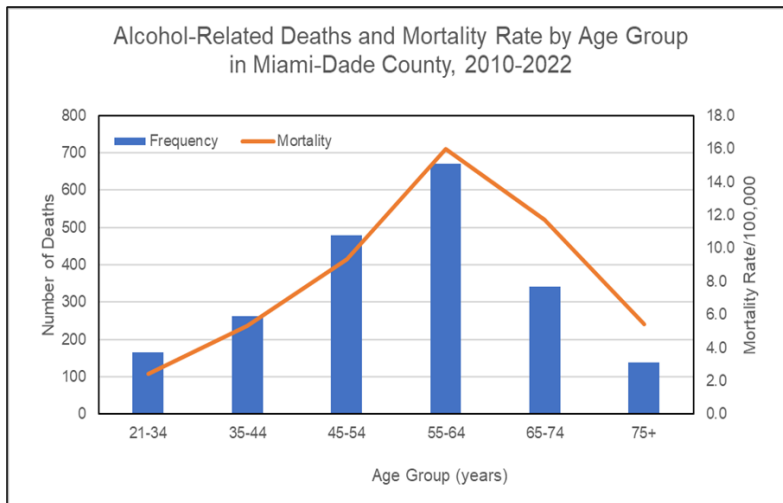


Figure 5. Alcohol-Related Deaths and Mortality Rate in Miami-Dade County (2010-2022)



Discussion

Since 2010, there has been an increase in alcohol-related deaths within Miami-Dade County. Deaths surged in 2020-2021 and decreased below pre-pandemic levels in 2022. This trend aligns with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, which increased risk factors for excessive alcohol consumption.³⁻⁸ These risk factors include loss of income and unemployment, reduction in childcare services, and psychosocial distress.^{5,6,8} With the presence of these risk factors, alcohol consumption was used to cope with increased stress.^{5,6,8} Furthermore, those who already drank in risky ways prior to the pandemic were more likely to increase their alcohol use during the pandemic.⁹

Between 2010 and 2022, the age group with the highest mortality rate was 55–64-year-olds. Previous data indicates that a higher percentage of older adults engage in binge drinking.¹⁰ In addition, older adults who take certain medications, have health problems, and drink heavily have an increased risk of alcohol-related complications.^{10,11} Next, males were 4.9 times more likely to suffer from an alcohol-related death. Other studies have shown that males have higher rates of binge drinking, alcohol use disorders, and engaging in risky behaviors while intoxicated.^{12,13} When exploring race and ethnicity, the Non-Hispanic White population had the highest mortality rate per 100,000 population. Lastly, alcohol-related deaths were analyzed by educational attainment. The results showed that a higher education was associated with a lower percentage of alcohol-related deaths. This evidence is supported by a previous study which found that individuals who dropped out of high school were 6.3 times more likely to develop alcohol abuse or dependence than those with a college degree.¹⁴

Figure 6. Proportion of Alcohol-related Deaths by Education in Miami-Dade County (2010-2022)

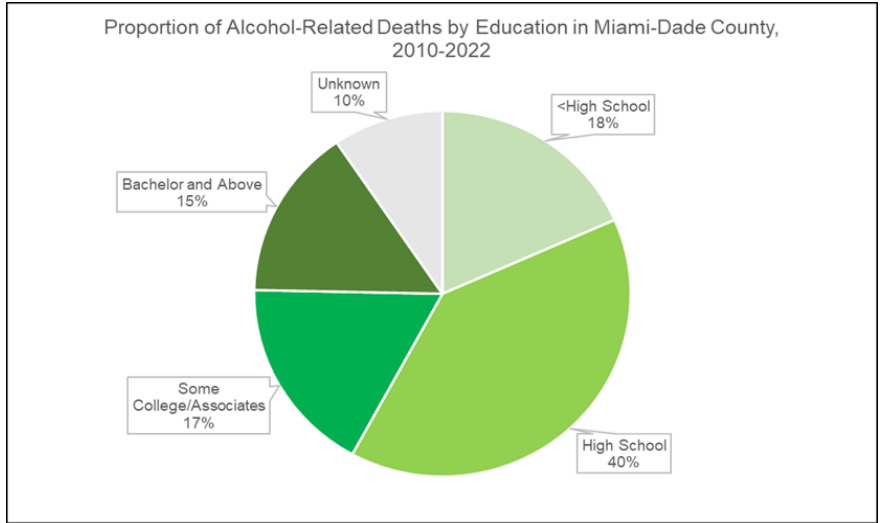
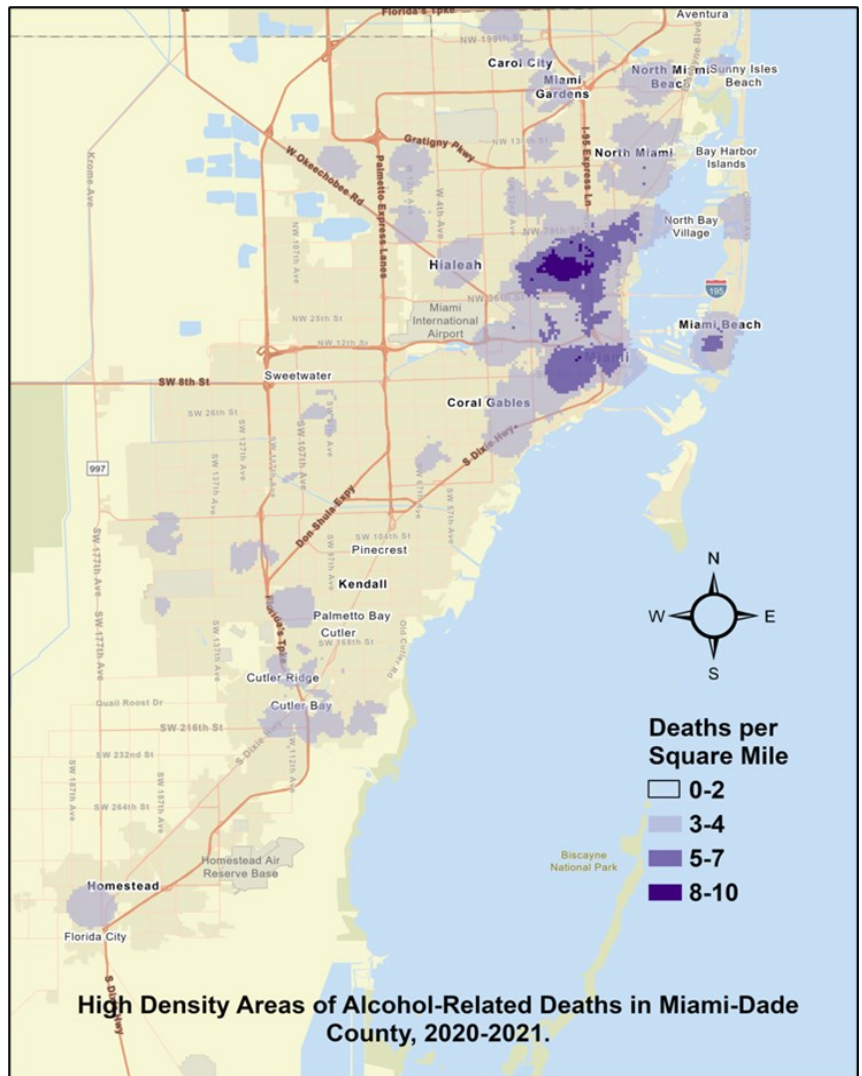


Figure 7. High Density Areas of Alcohol-Related Deaths in Miami-Dade County, 2020-2021



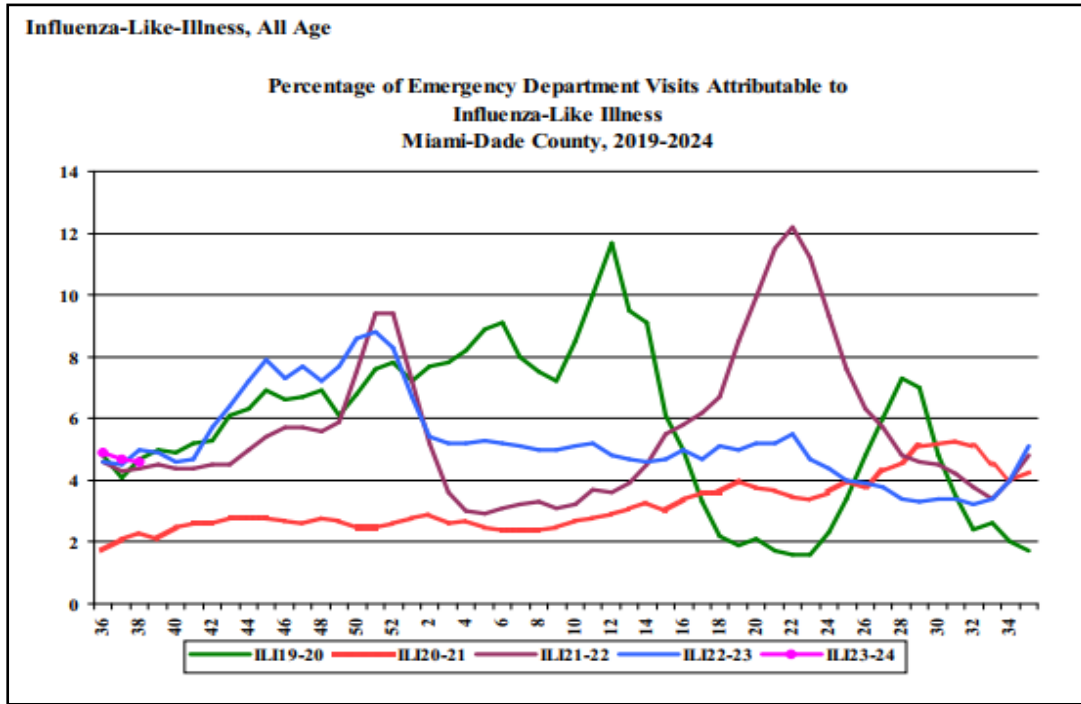
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Epidemiology, Disease Control and Immunization Services

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 36,904 ED visits; among them 1,700 (4.6%) were due to ILI. During the same week last year, 5.0% 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
Stephanie Ramirez at 305-470-5660.



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

Diseases/Conditions	2023 Current Month	2023 Year to Date	2022 Year to Date	2021 Year to Date
HIV/AIDS				
AIDS*	43	271	283	277
HIV	97	1012	1239	865
STD				
Infectious Syphilis*	52	94	460	411
Chlamydia*	1508	10790	9569	9437
Gonorrhea*	666	4726	4323	4169
TB				
Tuberculosis**	21	99	90	70
Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services				
Epidemiology				
Campylobacteriosis	92	532	429	358
Chikungunya Fever	0	0	0	0
Ciguatera Poisoning	3	14	3	10
Cryptosporidiosis	12	68	48	29
Cyclosporiasis	10	32	55	15
Dengue Fever	55	173	221	1
Escherichia coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	23	176	127	74
Encephalitis, West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0
Giardiasis, Acute	29	206	176	55
Influenza, Pediatric Death	0	2	0	0
Legionellosis	2	29	27	37
Leptospirosis	0	0	0	1
Listeriosis	1	3	4	7
Lyme disease	5	13	7	4
Malaria	1	6	0	3
Meningitis (except aseptic)	2	6	5	9
Meningococcal Disease	0	1	6	3
Salmonella serotype Typhi (Typhoid Fever)	0	1	0	0
Salmonellosis	197	880	761	591
Shigellosis	42	184	107	46
S. Pneumoniae, invasive disease	5	68	61	33
Vibriosis	5	27	23	14
West Nile Fever	0	0	0	0
Zika Virus (non-congenital)	0	0	0	0
Immunization Preventable Diseases				
Measles	0	0	0	0
Mumps	0	0	5	2
Pertussis	0	3	4	0
Rubella	0	0	0	0
Tetanus	0	0	0	0
Varicella	5	26	21	10
Hepatitis				
Hepatitis A	2	16	19	5
Hepatitis B (Acute)	2	59	68	20
Healthy Homes				
Lead Poisoning	54	320	245	78

*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!

- The DOH-Miami-Dade WIC Program partnered with Buddy System MIA to host the Florida City Community Fridge grand opening at the WIC Center in Florida City. Buddy System MIA is an initiative which provides **healthy food for under-represented Miami communities for free**. Visit buddysystemmia.com to learn more!
- **School is in session!** Please make sure your children are up-to-date with scheduled vaccines! Visit CDC.gov for immunization schedule.
- **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!
- DOH Miami-Dade offers COVID-19 vaccines, vaccine boosters, pediatric vaccines, and flu shots. Visit miamidade.floridahealth.gov for clinic locations and appointments!



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

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



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 Katerina Lopez at (305) 470-5649 or Katerina.Lopez@flhealth.gov.

