The Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communicable Disease Surveillance Division (EPRCDS), with 15 employees across four programs, works to promote coordination between all divisions within TCHD and with external partners for safety, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

Contamination Closes Water Park

In June, 2018, TCHD activated the internal Public Health Incident Management Team (PHIMT) to facilitate and support the response to water contamination issues resulting from the improper installation of a backflow valve. The potential exposure period affected approximately 20,000 guests and 500 employees. TCHD coordinated and performed employee screening for over 100 staff, implemented disease control measures at the park, and coordinated closely with the state health department on conducting interviews with guests impacted by the incident. This response was a successful collaboration of local, state and federal partners!

Arapahoe County Fair Salmonella Outbreak and Investigation

In August 2018, TCHD identified a Salmonella outbreak linked to the Arapahoe County Fair and related 4-H events and initiated an outbreak investigation. TCHD activated its PHIMT, collected environmental samples from fairground animal facilities in collaboration with CDPHE, and conducted a cohort study among 4-H animal exhibitors and their household members to assess associations between illness and a range of potential exposures (e.g., animal contact, food purchased from the fair, etc.). TCHD also led the public information component, coordinating with partners and posting updated case counts and other information on the TCHD website. Twenty lab confirmed cases were linked to the outbreak and contact with pigs was identified as the likely vehicle for disease transmission.
Syndromic Surveillance

TCHD is monitoring Syndromic Surveillance queries (e.g. substance overdose, infectious diseases, injuries, and other public health incidents) developed in the Syndromic Surveillance data system to improve timely public health surveillance and response. TCHD also communicates and shares information to enhance timely information sharing including the opioid overdose data dashboard, influenza, and other diseases or injuries. Additionally, TCHD created and shared 11 one-page notification reports with hospital partners and public health partners for the purpose of providing timely situational awareness and sharing prevention messages during public health incidents.

Communicable Disease Control

2018 Summary of Outbreaks Investigated

**OUTBREAKS INVESTIGATED**

Total Outbreaks - 90
- Retail Food Establishments - 9
- Long-term Care Facilities - 58
- Hospitals - 2
- Childcare Centers - 15
- Schools - 2
- Other - 4

**SEASONAL INFLUENZA 2018-2019**

Total Outbreaks - 16
- Hospitalizations - 710
- Pediatric Deaths - 0
- 100 Year Anniversary of 1918 Pandemic Influenza

**RABIES EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT**

Total Rabies Assessment - 1,035
- TCHD Exposure Assessment - 427
- Animal Control Assessment - 608

Workplace Safety and Security

The Safety and Security Program is tasked with keeping employees, clients, and TCHD partners safe. In 2018 there were 18 incidents that impacted the agency. The program focused efforts on preparing employees to respond to and manage difficult situations. To obtain metrics to evaluate the program, a staff survey was completed in December 2018 and will be conducted on an annual basis. The baseline survey showed most employees feel very or mostly safe at work and believe TCHD cares about their safety.

![Survey Results](image)