

# infection**connection**

A publication of the LDCHD Epidemiology program

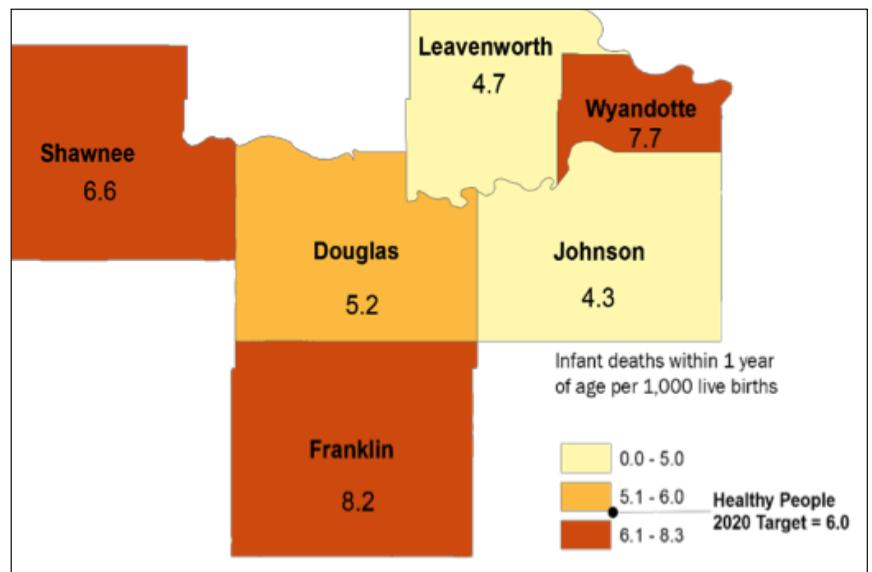
## Douglas County infant mortality data now available

Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department staff have completed an analysis of infant mortality rates in Douglas County.

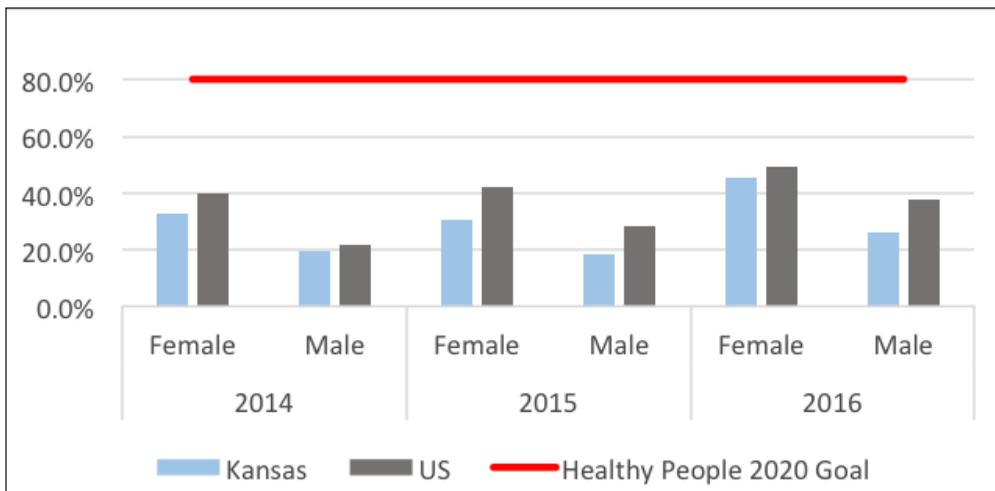
Compared to other counties in Kansas and the U.S., Douglas County has relatively low infant mortality rates; however, Douglas County does not have the lowest infant mortality rate in the state or the region.

From 2007-2011 to 2012-2016, the infant mortality rate increased in Douglas County when other surrounding counties saw a decrease. Although the increase in infant mortality in Douglas County is not statistically significant, monitoring this indicator over time is warranted given the public health significance of this indicator.

- You can download the Douglas County Infant Mortality Data Report (PDF), by clicking on <http://ldchealth.org/DocumentCenter/View/2225/Douglas-County-Infant-Mortality-Report>.



Infant mortality rate (2012-2016) for Douglas County and surrounding counties.



Kansas HPV vaccination coverage compared to U.S. coverage by female-male: 2014-2016

## Project goal: Increase HPV vaccination rates

The Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department is beginning a project that aims to increase HPV vaccination rates in Douglas County. The project will include focus groups with parents and providers, development of targeted communication materials, and school-based vaccination clinics.

You can help! We are looking for licensed providers to participate in a focus group about HPV vaccination from noon to

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## Douglas County Disease Report

Disease category	Disease name	Feb.	March	April	Total
Enteric	Salmonella	1	5	4	10
General	Hepatitis B, chronic	1	1	0	2
	Hepatitis C, chronic	8	10	3	21
	Strep A, Invasive	0	1	0	1
	Strep Pneumo, Invasive	1	1	0	2
Vaccine Preventable	Mumps	0	0	1	1
* STDs (tested at HD only)	Chlamydia	16	12	12	40
	Gonorrhea	10	5	5	20
	Syphilis	2	1	2	5

Report includes number of cases investigated by the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department. Case classifications include: confirmed, probable and suspect. \* Positives tested at Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department.

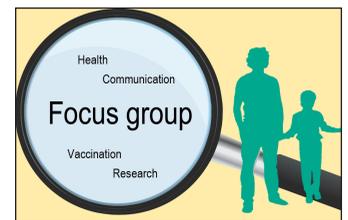
## Research project aims to increase HPV immunization rates in county

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1 p.m. Thursday, June 7, at Six Mile Chophouse. Lunch will be provided. For more information or to reserve your spot, please contact Sonia Jordan at [sjordan@ldchealth.org](mailto:sjordan@ldchealth.org).

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted disease in the U.S.

Most cases of HPV are clinically asymptomatic. Unfortunately, when left untreated, HPV has been linked to cancer. It is estimated that more than 90 percent of cervical cancers are due to HPV.



Kansas is estimated to have an overall rate of 11.8 for all HPV-associated cancers, including a 7.1 cervical cancer rate for females and an 8.2 oropharyngeal cancer rate for males.

Fortunately, the HPV vaccine is considered around 95 percent effective for females and 88 percent effective for males. Despite this, HPV vaccination rates remain significantly lower than other vaccination rates in the United States, Kansas and Douglas County and well below the Healthy People 2020 goal of 80 percent coverage.

## Kansas City public health officials monitoring measles outbreaks

Public health officials in the Kansas City metro area are continuing to monitor two outbreaks of measles that are co-occurring. The outbreaks are considered separate and distinct as the genotyping of each is different.

Kansas has had 22 cases (14 children and 8 adults), while Missouri has had 13 cases (8 children and 5 adults). It is believed the first case in Kansas was imported from outside the United States. No new cases have been reported for an incubation period, but public health officials recommend waiting two incubation periods before declaring an outbreak over.

Infectious Disease specialists at Children's Mercy Hospital recommend looking for the three C's when considering measles: cough, coryza, and conjunctivitis. Koplik spots can be a good indicator, but are oftentimes difficult to see. Rash often does not begin until 4-5 days post-fever onset.

Douglas County has not had a measles case associated with the outbreaks. However, it is important to remain vigilant when examining patients who have either been exposed to measles or are clinically compatible with measles.

If you have a suspected case of measles please call LDCHD at 785-843-3060 or KDHE at 1-877-427-7317.

## KDHE announces new disease regulations!

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has released new disease regulations that went into effect May 11, 2018.

There are updated recommendations for isolation and quarantine, exclusions from schools or restaurant work, and requirements for disease reporting.

New diseases on the reportable list include carbon monoxide poisoning and elevated blood lead.

The new regulations can be found here: <http://www.kdheks.gov/epi/regulations.htm>.

A new disease reporting form also is available and located here: [http://www.kdheks.gov/epi/download/Kansas\\_Reportable\\_Disease\\_Form.pdf](http://www.kdheks.gov/epi/download/Kansas_Reportable_Disease_Form.pdf). Once completed this form can be faxed to either LDCHD at 785-843-3161 or KDHE at 1-877-427-7318.