



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Health Department

Annual Report

2014



A Message from the Board of Health

It is our belief and practices that serving our communities can only be accomplished through engagement of our residents, local, regional and state partners, the community Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC), and the Health Department staff. In 2014 the Riley County Commissioners focused on the three core functions of public health: Assessment, Policy Development, and Assurance.

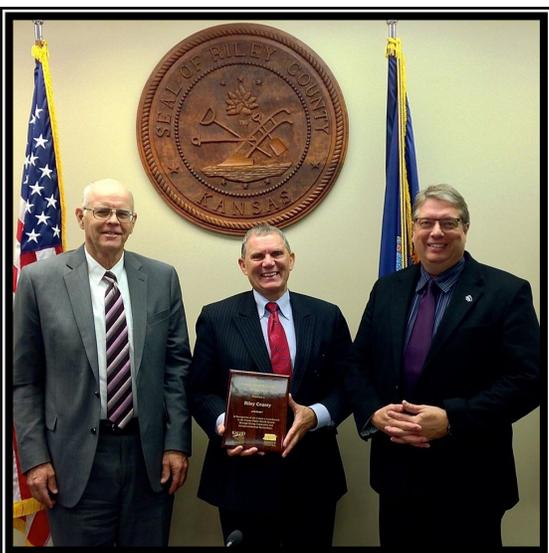
Assessment: Riley County communities undertook **two collaborative assessment processes:** The Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment (CCNA) and the Local Public Health System Assessment (LPHSA). The purpose of the two assessments were to describe the social, economic, and health factors that impact health status of our population and identify assets and resources present in our County that can be mobilized to address improvement of health, safety and quality of life. The assessments will serve as our roadmap for continued quality improvement of programs and services to improve population health.

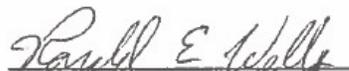
Policy Development: The Commission is committed **to informing, educating, and empowering** residents about public health, public safety, and public works. The Board of Health convened three public meetings in February, May and October to review the 2013 Annual Report and plans for 2014; to develop the Department budget, and; review progress on assessments and next steps for 2015. Through regular communication of data and science-based information we assisted the Department in **identifying, establishing and maintaining organizational and public health policies.**

The Board, Department, and PHAC mobilized community partners to explore impacts to health and the environment including learning about potential health impacts of pasture burning and assessing health and economic impacts of Fake Patty's Day. The Board approved the **development and implementation of Health Department policies** that support fiscal management of funds, fees and increasing the public's access to Health Department services through expanded operating hours.

Assurance: This year we supported **improving linkages to primary care** approving the co-location of the Konza Prairie Community Health Center at the Health Department. **Enforcement of public health and environmental health laws** is a function of the Board working directly with the Health Department and Planning and Development's Environment Health section that supports and enforces the Riley County Sanitary Code through education, evaluation, permits, and inspections. We are committed to assuring that our competent public health workforce is prepared to respond to any public health threat.

In 2015 the Board will be involved in community health improvement planning as well as the Health Department's strategic planning. We value our residents, county and community leaders, health care providers, and regional partners and invite you all to join us at our Board of Health meetings and each Monday and Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. in the Commission Chambers or submit your comments or questions to <http://www.rileycountyks.gov/29/County-Commissioners>. Your Board of Health looks forward to working with you to plan for improved health, safety, and quality of life in Riley County!




Commissioner Ron Wells


Commissioner Robert Boyd, Chair


Commissioner David L. (Dave Lewis) Guthals

Public Health Highlights

Healthy People in a Healthy Community

2014 was a foundational year for changing internal and external culture to address the public health! The following highlight the RCHD efforts to strengthen and improve coordination, collaboration, and communication with local, regional, and state partners:

- The RCHD coordinated key training and workshops with local and regional partners. *The outcome: Demonstrate leadership to strengthened relationships for disease prevention, coordinated disease outbreak response, and protection of the public health.*

- ◊ In April the partners of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Wildcat Region hosted a one-day work shop with over 25 health care providers, veterinarians, animal control, parks and recreation, KDHE epidemiologist, and public health professionals on zoonotic diseases: Infectious diseases that can be spread from animals and insects to humans.

- ◊ In July the RCHD hosted the Wildcat Region Immunization Symposium convened school nurses, pharmacist, health care providers, and local health departments for an update on immunizations from the KDHE Immunization Program.

- ◊ RCHD and Fort Riley Department of Veterinary Services coordinated a Zoonotic Disease Workshop in August for health care providers, school nurses, animal control, and health departments to learn more about the signs, symptoms, prevention measures, and care needed if exposure occurs.

- ◊ Beginning August 2014 Riley County joined local, regional, and state-level public health and emergency response agencies learning and planning Ebola in Kansas. The RCHD collaborated with the City of Manhattan Fire Department for RCHD training and community presentations. In December the RCHD hosted an Ebola Table Top Exercise with local hospitals, emergency responders, and public health. Efforts will continue in 2015.



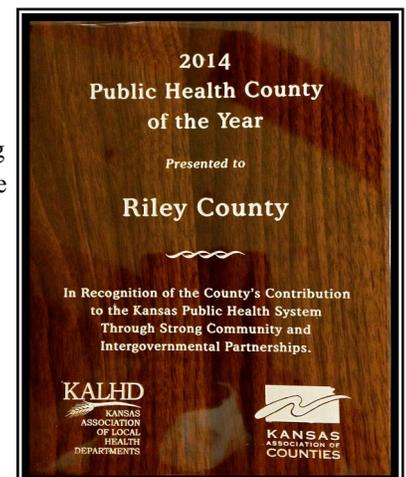
Representative Tom Phillips and Commissioner Robert Boyd were interviewed by KMAN reporter Laura Monsanto at the Local Public Health System Assessment in June.



Nursing Supervisor Linda Redding is getting trained in “donning and doffing” of personal protective equipment with Mark Whitehair of the Manhattan Fire Department.

- In July the RCHD began a five-month change management process working with the Kansas Health Institute through the Public Health Exchange and Professional Development Program to evaluate operating hours implemented over twenty years ago. Using quality improvement tools the Department engaged staff and surveys to partners and the public to gather and analyze data that resulted in new operating hours going into effect December 22. *The outcome: Increased accessibility to the public by 156 hours each by offering services Friday afternoons.*

- In November Riley County was recognized as the **Public Health County of the Year** by the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) and the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD). The County received two nominations highlighting collaboration and innovation between the Department and the Board of Health resulting in coordination and engagement of other policy makers, counties, and regional and state-level public health organizations for improving health. *The outcome: Confirmation of the value of multi-sector partnerships, policy, and use of evidence-based strategies to address the public health and safety.*

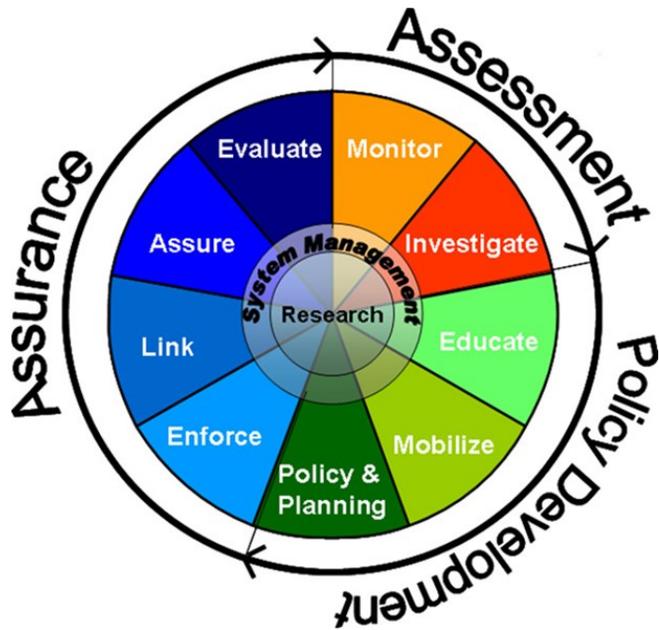


1. Monitor Health

- The Raising Riley (RR) team met all the goals established by the Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund’s Early Childhood Block Grant Common Measures requirements for assessments and reporting. The program was awarded “Rock Star” status by Executive Director Janice Smith during an October meeting between KCCTF staff and RCHD Administrator Brenda Nickel and RR Supervisor Jan Scheideman. Assessments administered included Ages and Stages Questionnaires and Individual Growth and Development Indicators to evaluate child development and progress and Classroom Assessment and Scoring System observations to evaluate child care provider performance and areas for growth.
- On June 11 the RCHD led public health leaders through the National Public Health Standards Local Public Health System Assessment. Approximately 100 community leaders were present to weigh in on how our community addresses the 10 Essential Public Health Services.
- RCHD staff was on the core planning committee for the Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment led by the Riley County Seniors Service Center. This assessment was conducted by the Wichita State University Center for Community Support and Research and entailed a survey, focus groups, and key community leader interviews. There were 11 topical areas addressed. The resulting report was very robust and comprehensive.
- In October the 2013 Behavioral Factor Risk Surveillance System (BRFSS) data was released. The health educator interpreted the local data and compared the 2011 data to the 2013 data as well as cross-sectionally between Riley County, the Wildcat Region (Geary, Riley and Pottawatomie Counties), and Kansas overall.
- In April the yearly County Health Rankings were released, Riley County was ranked number two for health outcomes. Riley County has been ranked in the top two for the past five years. Despite a high overall rank for health outcomes, there are many areas in the health factors section for improvement.



Participants vote at the Local Public Health System Assessment on June 11, 2014.



2. Diagnose and Investigate

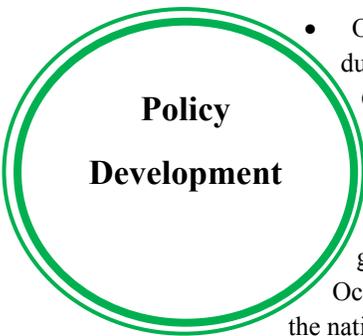
- The RCHD’s communicable disease nurse in collaboration with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) investigated a campylobacteriosis outbreak among workers at the Kansas State University (KSU) Dairy Unit, which houses over 200 cows and heifer calves. Cases were identified through routine surveillance by the RCHD. The investigation included questionnaires, stool samples, education and prevention measures.
- The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Coordinator formed the RCHD Emergency Preparedness Team in January of 2014. This team has assisted the RCHD in policy/plan development, staff preparedness, and also with incident after-action discussions.

3. Inform, Educate, Empower



Director Brenda Nickel and Jason Orr (not pictured) attended FEMA's Advanced Public Information Officer Training in Massachusetts.

- WIC implemented the Kansas Baby Behavior Campaign which provides parents with the skills to interact and understand their infant's cues to meet infant's needs appropriately, resulting in an increase in exclusive breastfeeding, and a decrease in both formula feeding and overfeeding.
- In June 2014 southern Riley County and southwestern Pottawatomie County received significant rainfall that were cause for both Flash Flooding and Flooding warnings around Wildcat Creek. The PHEP Coordinator used the RCHD Facebook page to notify the public at the time of the warnings. The postings "reached" several hundred people during each emergency.
- WIC and Riley County Extension Dietetic Interns collaborated to implement "Shopping Matters" a local grocery store tour for WIC clients. This hands-on learning experience provided participants the opportunity to learn how to make healthy food choices on a budget and make real changes to their food shopping habits.



- On May 8, 2014 Child Care Licensing (CCL) Surveyor/Program Coordinator Breva Spencer, conducted an Organizational Training for Licensed and Group Day Care Providers. Twenty four Child Care Provider's attended the training. The purpose of the training was to enhance the quality and improve the Provider's organizational skills so they will be compliant in regards to their child and adult paperwork.
- The PHEP Coordinator provided several presentations on Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) to emergency response partners as well as the community after awareness for the disease was heightened in October. The presentations focused on the history of the disease epidemic and response strategies for the nation, state, and within Riley County.

4. Mobilize Community Partnerships

- The Family Connections and WIC programs partnered with Mercy Regional Health Center and other community partners to form the Riley County Perinatal Coalition (RCPC). The RCPC worked with the Geary County Perinatal Coalition to expand their Delivering Change program into Riley County. The increased communication among the regional network of providers serving pregnant women and infants will improve birth outcomes and decrease infant mortality.



Vern Henricks (Greater Manhattan Community Foundation), Ginny Barnard (Riley County Extension), and Katy Oestman (RCHD) accept an award for a Blue CHIP grant to the Flint Hills Wellness Coalition.

- The PHEP Coordinator facilitated a tabletop discussion with Riley County health and medical agencies for a scenario of an Ebola case within Riley County. The exercise served to increase communication and preparedness activities between Riley County's public health and medical agencies.
- The community health educator worked with the Flint Hills Wellness Coalition as well as other Riley County departments to bring in over \$105,000 in grant money into the county. The grants all focused on healthy living including physical activity, nutrition and tobacco cessation.



The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Trailer was renovated and spruced up this year. The trailer was utilized at Okt-FLU-ber Fest.

- Pottawatomie and Geary County Health Departments, Fort Riley Department of Public Health and Army Irwin Hospital met monthly to develop regional public health preparedness work plans and coordinate activities and training that strengthens the Wildcat Region's ability to respond in an emergency.

5. Develop Policies



- In 2014 the RR program began restructuring the program to better meet the needs of at-risk children and families being served. The Child Care Assistance program was updated to provide additional assistance to the families in higher risk categories. Assistance will also be offered to families during a phase of job search and emergency situations.
- On March 24, 2014 the Riley County Commissioners approved a fee increase for all Child Care Facilities within Riley County and also approved a \$50.00 charge for KDHE issued compliance checks and substantiated complaints to take effect July 1, 2014. The CCL Program Coordinator/Surveyor Breva Spencer, researched and gathered data for over a year and presented to the Commissioners on two occasions before receiving final approval to increase licensing fees. The implementation of the new CCL fees has resulted in higher revenues than projected for the CCL program in 2014.
- In 2014 a departmental accreditation team was formed. One of the first tasks of the team was to develop basic departmental policies to help lead the department and create continuity. Some of the first policies developed were conference room protocols as well as policies for document naming and saving.

6. Enforce Laws

- The Riley County CCL program currently has 130 licensed facilities with the potential of providing child care services to approximately 2,615 children. In 2014, the CCL Surveyor completed 20 initial inspections, 130 annual inspections, 37 KDHE issued compliance checks, 21 licensed facility complaint inspections and 10 illegal child care complaint inspections.



7. Link to and Provide Care



Public Health Nurse Jada Hinrichs gives Commissioner Robert Boyd his flu shot at Okt-FLU-ber Fest.

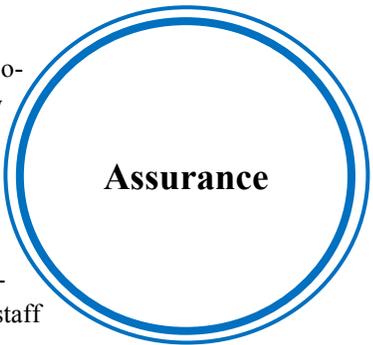
- Family Connections served 656 families via its Maternal and Infant Health, Home Visiting, Becoming a Mom and Healthy Start Home Visitor programs. Through these programs Family Connections provided 3,331 referrals for additional services to participating families.
- The Family Connections Certified Application Counselor assisted 28 families with obtaining health insurance through the Marketplace Exchange.
- From late September through December the Public Health Clinic vaccinated 3,348 men, women and children against influenza. The vaccines were provided at 32 worksite flu clinics, at the main clinic in Manhattan and our satellite Clinics in Leonardville, Randolph, and Riley, and Okt-FLU-ber Fest.
- Safe Harbor, Life after Delivery, a weekly support group was formed by the Fort Riley WIC office. The group provides physical, mental and informational support to newly delivered women as they adjust to their new role as a mom.
- The RCHD and Konza Prairie Community Health Center formalized an agreement that added primary care medical services to the existing dental clinic co-located at the RCHD.

8. Assure a Competent Workforce

- On July 24 the First Wildcat Region Immunization Symposium was hosted by RCHD. The symposium was designed to foster communication between community partners to promote community immunity in all age groups and receive the latest information for best immunization practices. This symposium assured the competence of not only the workforce here at the RCHD, but also that of other regional health departments, community clinics, school nurses, the local hospital and staff of the Lafene student health center.



Child Care Licensing intern Andrew Swisher donned the "Be Wise Bee" costume at Okt-FLU-ber Fest.



- In pursuit of the *Becoming a Mom* program grant, the Family Connections staff received training on grant writing, program implementation and evaluation of the *Becoming a Mom* project. Washburn and KSU student interns learned first-hand about the important grant writing process through this project.

- September through December RCHD and the Kansas Health Institute (KHI) conducted a public health exchange. Sarah Hartsig, Analyst at KHI spent a week at RCHD learning about the department and conducting a change management process to assess operating hours, among other tasks. Katy Oestman, Community Health Educator at RCHD, spent a week at KHI learning about KHI and developed a QI plan for RCHD, helped make an Arc GIS map, helped the PHAC report their Fake Patty's day investigation findings into a health impact assessment, and much more.



Sarah Hartsig, KHI, presents the operating hours findings to RCHD staff during the public health exchange.

- The PHEP Coordinator, Jason Orr, facilitated development of work plans to assure that RCHD team members are prepared to respond to an emergency both internal and external to the department. Of the 34 team members assigned to specific response role, the following demonstrates competency in the workforce:

- ◇ 100% - IRIS registrations, Hazard Communication, and Bloodborne Pathogen completions
- ◇ 94% - fit testings & medical evaluations
- ◇ 97% - ICS-700 completions
- ◇ 92% - ICS-100 completions

9. Evaluate

- RCHD was awarded a \$15,000 grant from the March of Dimes (MOD) to implement MOD's *Becoming a Mom/Comenzando bien* Program using specific curriculum to teach perinatal education to expecting mothers. The program is being evaluated by Wichita State University for knowledge and behavior change effectiveness with the ultimate goal to evaluate its impact on birth outcomes and decreased infant mortality.
- Based on the 2013 Patient Flow Analysis the Public Health Clinic moved to an appointment-based system to increase access for clients, reduce the "no-show" rate, and reduce the number of clients seen on a walk in basis. To provide a more efficient work flow pharmaceuticals were moved to a separate area from the vaccines. This allowed for clinic staff to more efficiently provide services to clients and reduce wait time.



10. Research

- The WIC program served as a preceptor for a MPH student from KSU. The student's field experience research evaluated the effectiveness of WIC's methods of delivering secondary nutrition education.

Director's Report



Communication has been the foundation of the 2014 accomplishments and outcomes highlighted in this Annual Report! Through consistent engagement of our Board of Health, Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC), private and public organizations, and those we serve, the Riley County Health Department (RCHD) has strengthened partnerships, programs, and services in Riley County and demonstrated accountability for the legal authorities, responsibilities, and obligations granted to the RCHD. Key communication strategies undertaken this year included:

Engaging the public health governing body: The RCHD is accountable to the Board of Health and values the exchange of information that has been conducted through 101 press releases, Commission Agenda Reports, monthly reports, updates related to public health topics and policy, and the Board of Health meetings held three times during the year.

Community conversations: In 2014 two concurrent community assessments were conducted: The Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment (CCNA) conducted under the facilitation of the Riley County Senior Center <http://www.seniorsservicecenter.org/community-needs-assessment.html> and the Riley County Local Public Health System Assessment (LPHSA) <http://www.datacounts.net/lphsa/> facilitated by the RCHD. Both processes invited residents and partners to participate in community meetings and surveys identifying health and social service needs, quality of life measures, and resources to address needs.

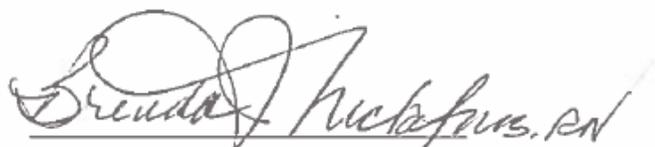
Discussion of health issues and impacts: The PHAC and RCHD conducted a year-long health impact assessment related to the Manhattan area Fake Patty's Day, an event that has resulted in increased arrests and health related problems due to alcohol consumption. This discussion engaged various partners to communicate data, insight, and ideas helping to inform future decisions that may mitigate health impacts from this annual community event while preserving traditions.

Inform and educate: The RCHD presented throughout the community in 2014 on health behaviors, infectious diseases, and the role and responsibilities of the Health Department. Additionally, the RCHD continues to utilize social media to communicate health issues, accomplishments, and activities to keep the public informed of prevention, promotion, protection, and public health preparedness resources. In 2014 RCHD programs and public health issues have been covered by the local print and radio media, as well as regional news coverage.

Team weekly updates: The RCHD regularly updates all staff, co-located partners that include Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Positive Connections, and Konza Prairie Community Health Center, the PHAC, and key partners through RCHD Weekly Updates compiled from all programs and sent weekly via electronic email.

Communication and dialogue with residents in our six Riley County communities will continue in 2015 as relevant findings from the 2014 assessments will be shared and prioritized by constituents and partners. Through public input, a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) will be developed which will serve as the keystone the RCHD will use to build an overarching strategic plan: the central supporting element to assure we are addressing the 10 Essential Public Health Services.

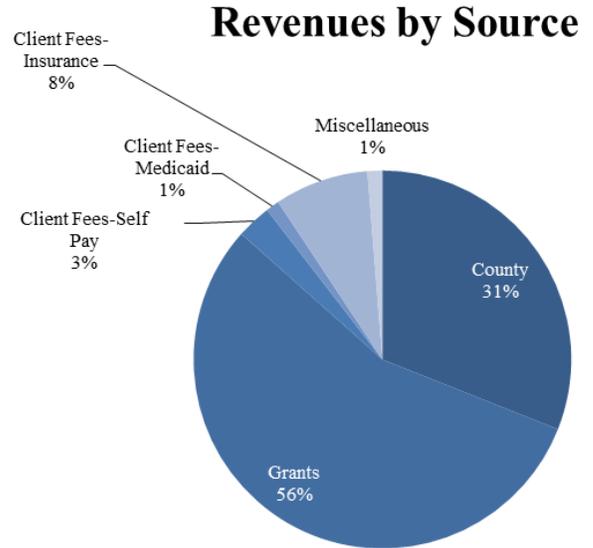
Our team is committed to providing you a competent, responsive, and agile workforce to address the public health and safety issues, to research and implement approaches to address issues, and to working with our county, regional, and state partners to adopt actions with the greatest potential to collectively impact health! We will continue to invite dialog, collaboration, and celebration as we work together towards achieving Riley County's vision of **Healthy People in a Healthy Community!** Join us at <http://www.rileycountyks.gov/286/Health-Department> or follow us on Facebook!


Brenda J. Nickel, MS, RN
Director & Local Health Officer

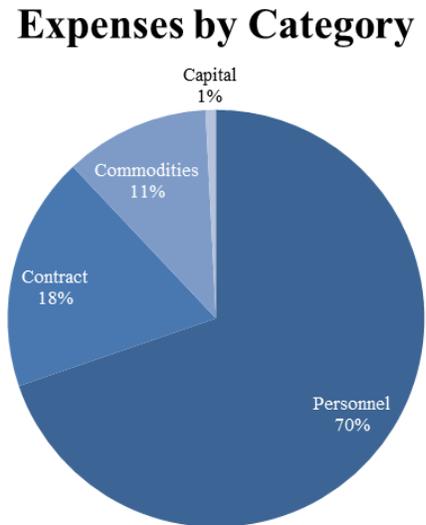
Financial Statement

Unaudited Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the period January 1—December 31, 2014

Beginning Balance	\$ 695,974.97
Revenue	
County	\$ 1,096,226.00
Grants	\$ 1,963,592.00
Client Fees-Self Pay	\$ 104,848.62
Client Fees-Medicaid	\$ 40,296.04
Client Fees-Insurance	\$ 284,711.74
Miscellaneous	\$ 45,003.97
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 3,534,678.37



*Expenses	
Personnel	\$ 2,316,480.72
Contract	\$ 604,795.72
Commodities	\$ 373,164.32
Capital	\$ 27,007.45
Transfers Out	\$ 695,974.97
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 4,017,423.18



Ending Balance **\$ 213,230.16**

*These numbers are preliminary and are as of a report dated 12/31/2014. Numbers will not be finalized until 02/28/2015.



