

Ohio Department
of Health

2005/6 Annual Report

The mission of the Ohio Department of Health is to protect and improve the health of all Ohioans by preventing disease, promoting good health and assuring access to quality health care.



Director's Message

Governor Taft and My Fellow Ohioans:



After several years of preparing for a potential bioterrorism attack, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) found itself dealing mostly with more traditional public health issues in state fiscal years (SFY) 2005 and 2006. ODH

always was aware those post-911 preparations would also come in handy during a natural public health emergency and as August 2004 rolled around, the agency learned just how true that was.

Throughout the summer, more than 1,400 people reported suffering from gastrointestinal illness after visiting Ottawa County's South Bass Island (SBI). After months of local, state and federal investigation, ODH concluded the island's aquifer was widely contaminated, mostly likely due to failing septic systems. You can read more about the SBI outbreak later in this annual report.

SFY 2005 also saw the culmination of a 30-year effort to strengthen and add uniformity to Ohio's sewage rules. The 125th Ohio General Assembly passed Substitute House Bill 231 in December 2004 and authorized the Public Health Council to adopt rules for household sewage treatment systems and small-flow, on-lot sewage treatment systems. You can read more about this effort later in this annual report.

Heading into SFY 2006, ODH turned its attention to the H5N1 avian influenza (bird flu) virus and its potential to spark a human influenza pandemic. Pandemic preparations began with a 120-day planning period that culminated in the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan posted on Ohio's new pandemic influenza Web site at <http://www.ohiopandemicflu.gov>.

Other planning efforts included Ohio's pandemic influenza summit hosted by Taft and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt, ODH-sponsored forums for local communities and planning exercises featuring all affected state agencies. While we hope we never have to put these plans into action, experts agree the next pandemic is not a matter of "if," but "when."

The 21st century promises to be a challenging and exciting time in public health. And residents of the State of Ohio can be assured their ODH is working hard every day to protect and improve the health of all Ohioans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Mick Baird". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

J. Mick Baird, M.D.

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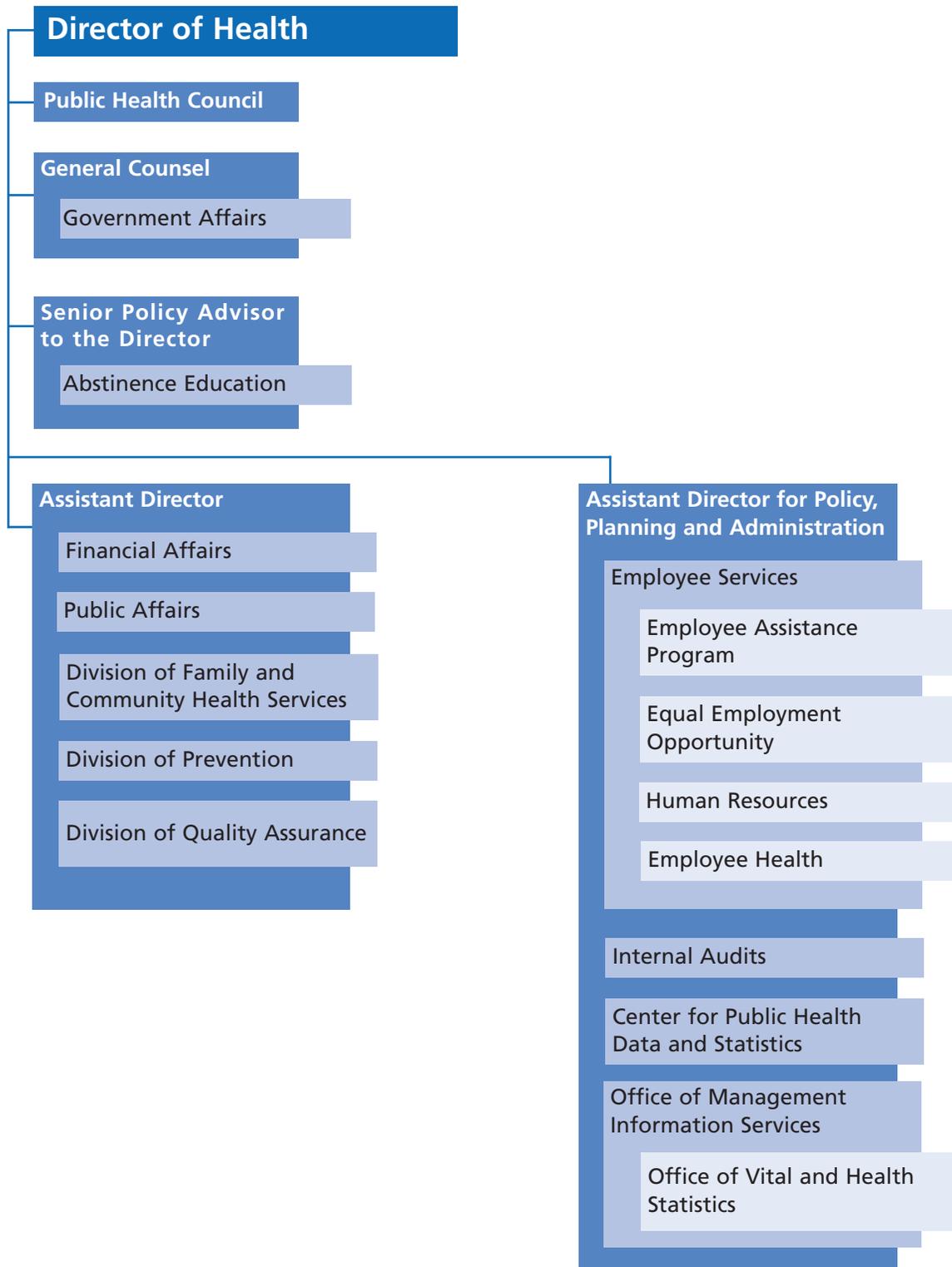


Table of Organization 2005

Division of Family and Community Health Services

Bureau of Nutrition Services

Bureau of Early Intervention Services

Bureau of Child and Family Health Services

Bureau of Oral Health Services

Bureau of Community Health Services and Systems Development

Bureau of Health Services Information and Operational Support

Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps

Division of Quality Assurance

Bureau of Long Term Care Quality

Bureau of Community Health Care Facilities and Services

Bureau of Regulatory Compliance

Bureau of Diagnostic Safety and Personnel Certification

Bureau of Information and Operational Support

Division of Prevention

State Epidemiologist

Healthy Ohioans

Bureau of Infectious Disease Control

Bureau of Health Surveillance and Information and Operational Support

Bureau of Alcohol Testing

Bureau of Health Promotion and Risk Reduction

Bureau of Environmental Health

Bureau of Public Health Laboratories

Bureau of Radiation Protection

Table of Organization 2006

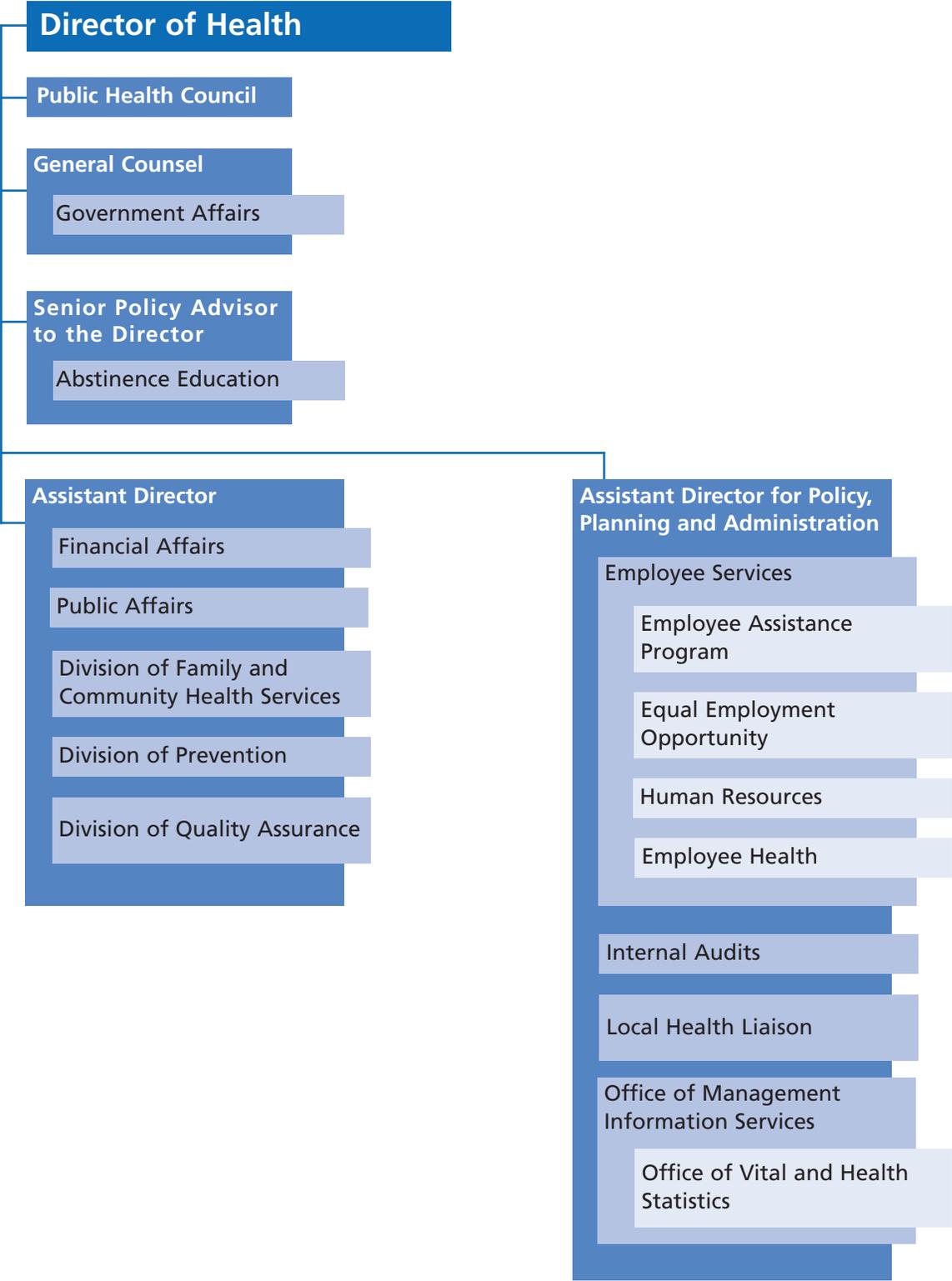


Table of Organization 2006

Division of Family and Community Health Services

Bureau of Nutrition Services

Bureau of Early Intervention Services

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Bureau of Oral Health Services

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Bureau of Health Services Information and Operational Support

Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps

Division of Quality Assurance

Bureau of Long Term Care Quality

Bureau of Community Health Care Facilities and Services

Bureau of Regulatory Compliance

Bureau of Diagnostic Safety and Personnel Certification

Bureau of Information and Operational Support

Division of Prevention

State Epidemiologist

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Bureau of Infectious Disease Control

Bureau of Health Surveillance and Information and Operational Support

Bureau of Alcohol Testing

Bureau of Health Promotion and Risk Reduction

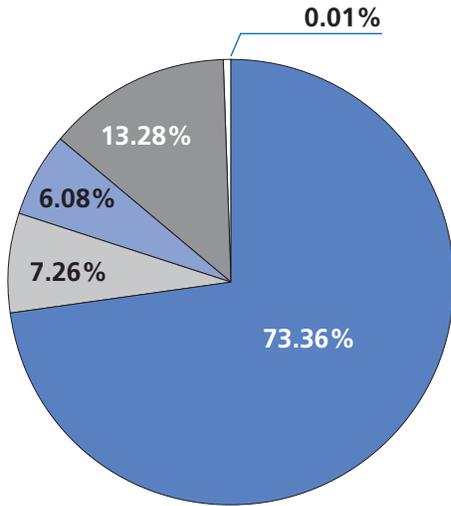
Bureau of Environmental Health

Bureau of Public Health Laboratories

Bureau of Radiation Protection

Bureau of Public Health Preparedness

Financial Information 2005

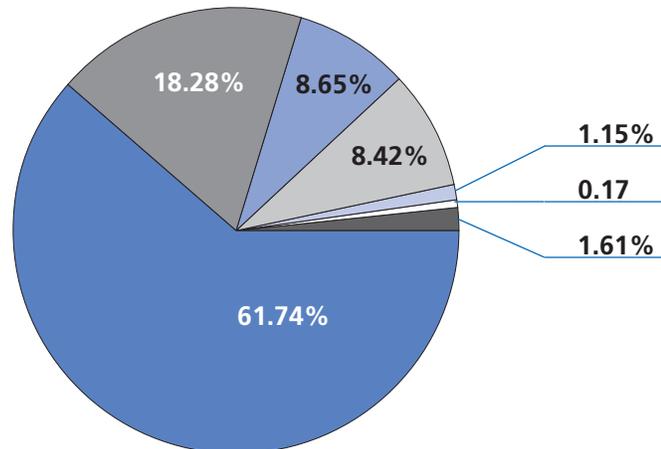
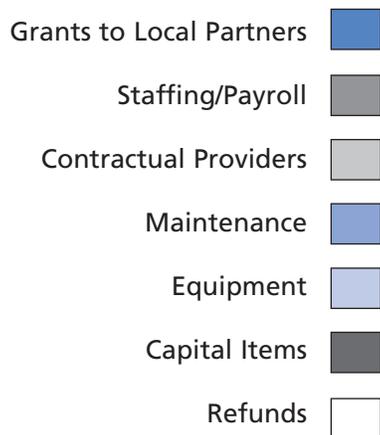


SFY 2005 Revenue by Type

Type	Amount	Percentage
Federal	407,724,289	73.36%
Fees	40,368,752	7.26%
Intrastate Transfer	33,779,710	6.08%
Refunds	65,872	0.01%
State General Revenue	73,820,948	13.28%
Total	555,759,571	100.00%

SFY 2005 Expenditures by Category

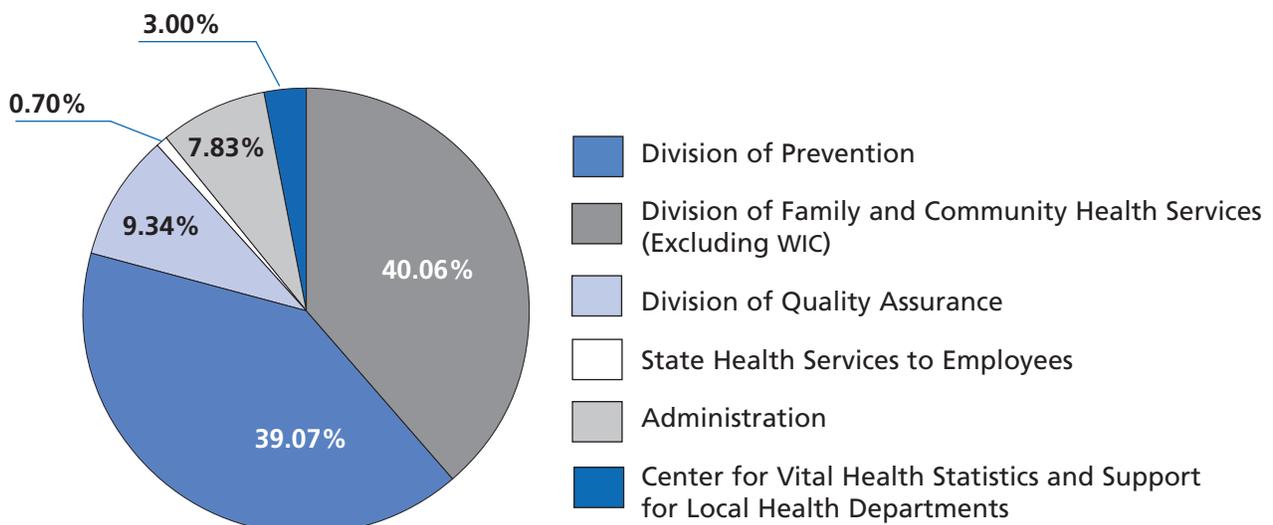
	Amount	Percentage
Grants to Local Partners	321,322,285	61.74%
Staffing/Payroll	95,131,400	18.28%
Contractual Providers	43,838,730	8.42%
Maintenance	44,998,268	8.65%
Equipment	5,964,738	1.15%
Capital Items	864,716	0.17%
Refunds	8,365,382	1.61%
Total	520,485,519	100.00%



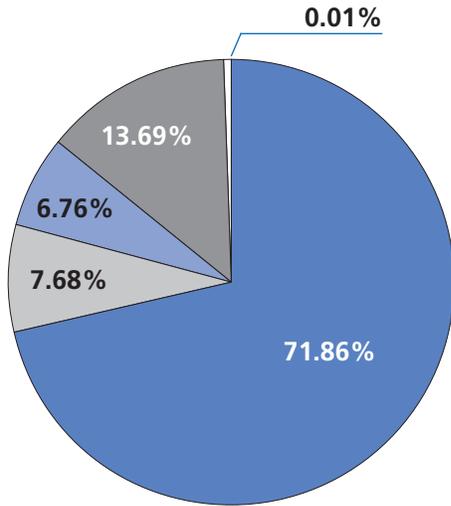
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SFY 2005 Expenditures Incurred by ODH Programs

	Amount	Percentage
Division of Prevention	121,338,489	39.07%
Division of Family and Community Health Services (Excluding WIC)	124,404,374	40.06%
Division of Quality Assurance	29,001,542	9.34%
State Health Services to Employees	2,188,204	0.70%
Administration	24,330,164	7.83%
Center for Vital Health Statistics and Support for Local Health Departments	9,314,771	3.00%
Total	310,577,544	100.00%



Financial Information 2006

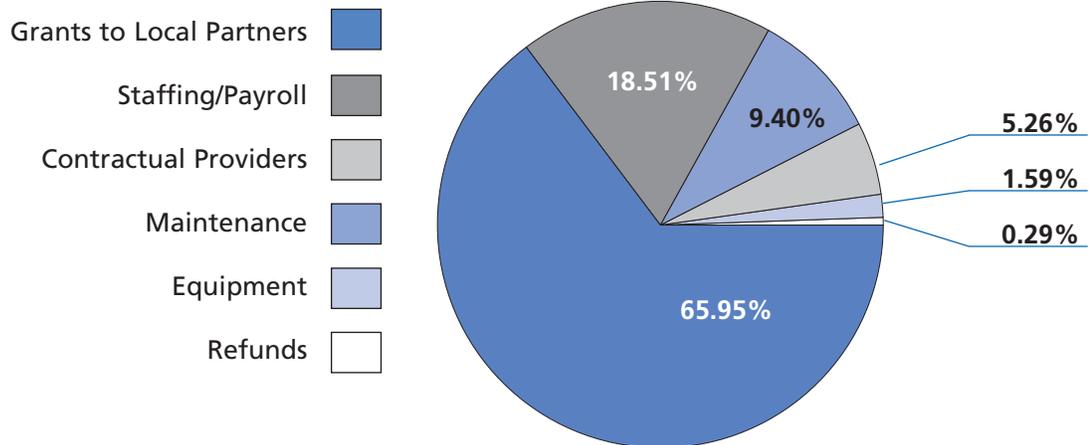


SFY 2006 Revenue by Type

Type	Amount	Percentage
Federal	396,227,231	71.86%
Fees	42,345,369	7.68%
Intrastate Transfer	37,284,244	6.76%
Refunds	56,361	0.01%
State General Revenue	75,487,016	13.69%
Total	551,400,221	100.00%

SFY 2006 Expenditures by Category

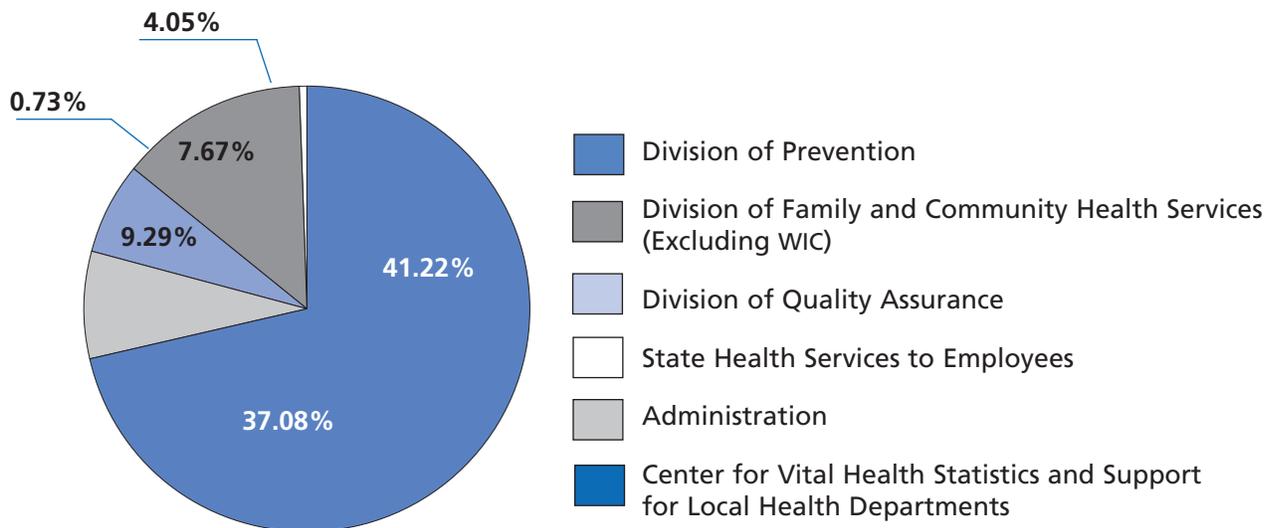
	Amount	Percentage
Grants to Local Partners	339,950,223	64.95%
Staffing/Payroll	96,880,270	18.51%
Contractual Providers	27,556,765	5.26%
Maintenance	49,197,287	9.40%
Equipment	8,321,869	1.59%
Refunds	1,493,470	0.29%
Total	523,399,884	100.00%



Financial Information 2006

SFY 2006 Expenditures Incurred by ODH Programs

	Amount	Percentage
Division of Prevention	114,784,937	37.08%
Division of Family and Community Health Services (Excluding WIC)	127,625,940	41.22%
Division of Quality Assurance	28,646,295	9.25%
State Health Services to Employees	2,250,693	0.73%
Administration	23,752,923	7.67%
Center for Vital Health Statistics and Support for Local Health Departments	12,528,549	4.05%
Total	309,589,337	100.00%



Meeting Public Health Challenges

South Bass Island

On Aug. 3, 2004, the Ottawa County Health Department (OCHD) informed the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) of reports of gastrointestinal illness among residents and visitors to South Bass Island (SBI).

What started as a trickle of calls quickly turned into a flood. Public health professionals realized an outbreak was underway and quickly mobilized a response.

After providing assistance daily by telephone, ODH arrived in Ottawa County on Aug. 14, followed by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Aug. 18. On Aug. 23, ODH Director J. Nick Baird, M.D., signed a Journal Entry that kicked off ODH's first director's investigation under Section 3701.14 of the Ohio Revised Code which was passed by the 125th Ohio General Assembly as Senate Bill 6.

By the time the outbreak had subsided, 1,450 people from several states, the United Kingdom and Canada had reported illness after visiting SBI. Patients ranged in age from 7 months to 83 years; some were hospitalized but thankfully no one died. All patients reported gastrointestinal distress and cases of *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, *norovirus* and *Giardia* were laboratory confirmed.

The health professionals on scene in Ottawa County had three goals: to determine the cause of the outbreak; to conduct an environmental assessment; and to establish recommendations to prevent and control the outbreak. ODH and its partners quickly honed in on contaminated ground water as the likely source of illness.

Highlights of the investigation:

- Aug. 9—Ohio Department of Agriculture begins testing 27 public wells, 12 of which are positive for coliform and/or *E. coli*.
- Aug. 13—Ohio EPA orders two island businesses to cap their septic tanks.
- Aug. 19—ODH institutes the Incident Command Structure to streamline efforts.
- Aug. 20—ODH establishes a toll-free public information line that eventually takes more than 1,200 calls from sick and worried SBI visitors and residents.
- Aug. 23—After signing his Journal Entry, Baird visits Ottawa County to evaluate progress.
- Aug. 24.—Environmental assessment begins with OCHD testing nine residential wells, seven of which were positive for coliform and/or *E. coli*.



ODH Director J. Nick Baird, M.D. announces prevention and control measures to limit the further spread of illness during the SBI investigation.



Staff from ODH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ottawa County Health Department discuss the latest information from the SBI investigation.

The investigation of one of the nation's largest water-borne outbreaks was an unprecedented local, state and federal collaboration. ODH, OCHD and several other local health departments, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), the Ohio departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the CDC took part.

- Aug. 26—ODH establishes Joint Information Center (JIC) for daily briefings; JIC is open until Sept. 7.
- Aug. 26—Investigators identify contaminated ground water as a likely source of illness and Baird announces prevention and control measures—such as drinking only bottled or boiled water and practicing frequent hand washing—to limit the outbreak. Reports of new illnesses fall dramatically.
- Aug. 26—Ohio EPA issues first of many no-use orders for wells at SBI-based businesses whose water supplies test positive for total coliform and/or *E. coli*.
- Sept. 8—Experts from CDC’s National Center for Environmental Health arrive to assist with an aquifer study of 90 residential wells. More than 75 percent ultimately test positive for total coliforms and nearly 33 percent test positive for *E. coli*.
- Oct. 30—ODH and OCHD meet with island dwellers with private wells to discuss prevention measures such as continuous disinfecting and testing.
- Feb. 22, 2005—ODH issues preliminary report naming widespread ground water contamination as the likely source of illness.



Reporters at a SBI news briefing. ODH operated a joint information center with other state and local agencies during the investigation.

“Several studies—including testing of private wells, case-control studies, epidemiological investigations and extensive testing of public drinking supplies—point to widespread ground water contamination,” Baird said at the time. “Effective measures to limit exposure to the contaminated water will be in place for the upcoming season.”

When visitors arrived at SBI during the 2005 season, they were greeted by Ohio EPA-approved signs posted at buildings served by an Ohio EPA-regulated water source. Visitors were advised to drink only bottled or boiled water at establishments without these signs. Long-term measures to limit exposure to contaminated water were begun by island officials and include expanding the water treatment plant; extending water lines; and hauling water to businesses not on Put-in-Bay’s village water system.

No illnesses were reported in 2005

The 2004 SBI investigation was the epitome of government in action and a perfect example of a collaborative local, state and federal investigation. The actions taken had their intended effect and ODH continues to pursue its mission of protecting and improving the health of all Ohioans.



ODH Assistant Director Jim Pearsol provides reporters a status report of the SBI investigation during a news briefing.

House Bill 231

After advocating for legislation for nearly 30 years, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) was successful in getting the authority to draft statewide sewage rules with the passage of House Bill (HB) 231 in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2005.

Passed by the 125th Ohio General Assembly in December 2004 and signed by Governor Bob Taft in January 2005, HB 231 charged ODH, through the Public Health Council, with drafting and adopting statewide sewage rules designed to support local health district programs; provide a means for compliance with the Clean Water Act; and engage homeowners and communities in managing individual sewage treatment systems.

ODH approached this opportunity as a clean slate and sought to be responsive to local concerns, related state regulations and national initiatives. To ensure interested stakeholders were represented, ODH appointed a director's sewage advisory committee (SAC) to bring issues and information to the rule-making process. The SAC began meeting in April and as SFY 2005 came to a close, ODH was preparing to draft rule language.

Work continued into SFY 2006 and ODH looks forward to implementing new rules to regulate household sewage treatment systems and small-flow, on-lot sewage treatment systems.

Pandemic Influenza Planning

Also in SFY 2006, ODH began preparing for a potential influenza pandemic. The deadly H5N1 avian influenza (bird flu) served to remind public health about the very real threat of a novel influenza virus to which humans have little or no immunity sparking the first pandemic of the 21st century. Given there were three such pandemics in the 20th century—1918, 1957 and 1968—experts think it's only a matter of time.

ODH began the process with a 120-day planning period that resulted in creation of ODH's Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan (PIPRP). The PIPRP was the cornerstone of ODH's new pandemic influenza Web site—<http://www.ohiopandemicflu.gov>—which now serves as a one-stop shop for information for Ohioans concerned about pandemic influenza who want to prepare.

In February 2006, Taft joined U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt for Ohio's pandemic influenza planning summit. This summit gathered professionals from Ohio's public and private health care sectors, business community, schools and other key segments of society to lay out the very real threat a pandemic may pose. Because all of the country—and, therefore, the State of Ohio—will be impacted nearly simultaneously, local preparation is essential, they were told.

ODH continues its efforts to help ready Ohio for a potential influenza pandemic. Other activities include hosting forums for organizations throughout the state; exploring options for purchases of antiviral medications; urging residents to take common sense steps to protect their health today; and a multimedia awareness-raising campaign that coincided with ODH's display at the Ohio State Fair.

Ohioans should stay alert for additional information regarding pandemic influenza. ODH is planning another follow-up campaign to ensure Ohioans are as prepared as they can be when a pandemic emerges and the Web site is updated often to reflect the latest information available.

Be sure to check it out often and become a partner in helping ODH to protect and improve the health of all Ohioans—including you and your loved ones.



Ohio Department of Health
246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
<http://www.odh.ohio.gov>

Bob Taft, Governor
J. Nick Baird, M.D., Director of Health
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