

ANNUAL REPORT

TUSCOLA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2023 - 2024

The Tuscola County Health Department actively strives to enhance our community's quality of life by disease prevention, health protection and healthy lifestyle promotion.

ABOUT US



TCHD Leadership

Medical Director

Mustafa Mark Hamed, MD, MBA, MPH, FAAFP

Health Officer

Amanda Ertman, MPH, MHA

Nursing Administrator

Kristi Villalobos, RN, MSN

Environmental Health Director

Jerry White, RS

Information Technology Director

Jon Suber

Financial Director

Deb Cook

Veteran Affairs Director

Mark Zmierski

Programs

Personal Health Services

Breastfeeding
Children's Special Health Care Services
Communicable Disease
Family Planning
Geriatrics
Hearing & Vision
Immunization
Maternal Infant Health
MI Bridges Navigation Partner
Sexual Risk Avoidance
STI/HIV
WIC

Environmental Health

Emergency Preparedness

Veteran Affairs

Letter from the Health Officer



Dear Community Members,

This past year has been one of growth, collaboration, and renewal. Our top priority has been strengthening our relationship with the communities we serve. We believe that public health thrives when built on trust, inclusion, and open dialogue. Through outreach programs, partnerships, and transparent communication, we have laid strong foundations for lasting community bonds. We prioritized the well-being of children through targeted health initiatives, including the Child and Adolescent Health Center Program (CAHC) and the Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment Program (KOHA), as well as partnerships with Employer-Led Collaborative Partners to strengthen the overall health status of our community's children. These initiatives were completed by activities designed to foster lifelong healthy habits, reflecting our ongoing commitment to nurturing a healthier future generation.

We took pride in partnering with the justice system through Reaching Rural, Advancing Collaborative Solutions Program, as part of the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Prevention and Recovery Coalition, and the Overdose Fatality Review Team. This unique opportunity allows us to collaborate with representatives from all agencies throughout the county to address common issues related to substance use. This initiative aligns with our commitment to social responsibility and long-term community growth.

We thank you for your support and look forward to deepening these connections in the coming year.

Warm regards,

Amanda Ertman
Health Officer

Nursing Division



The Nursing Division at the Tuscola County Health Department experienced a year of significant advancements in technology, program expansion, and community engagement during Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Technological Advancements: The division embraced technological upgrades to enhance efficiency and data management. Key implementations included the successful rollout of a new Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system, a transition in Family Planning reporting from aggregate data to a point-of-care data, and the integration of a new statewide lead database, MiClear.

Program Highlights and Expansion: Our programs demonstrated remarkable achievements and growth. The WIC program received statewide recognition for achieving the biggest increase in breastfeeding duration rates at 2, 6, and 11 months within Michigan. The Family Planning program expanded its services by implementing Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive (LARC) insertion and removals, increasing access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare. Further bolstering our maternal and infant health initiatives, the division was awarded a breastfeeding grant from the Region 6 Perinatal Quality Collaborative. The Maternal Infant Health Program passed its Cycle 9 State Certification Review receiving a 99%. Looking ahead, we successfully wrote and received approval for the Empowering Youth Today grant that focuses on Sexual Risk Avoidance Education, promising to further support the health and well-being of young people in our community.

New and Notable Initiatives: The division proactively addressed emerging public health needs by initiating the administration of the RSV vaccine to at-risk populations, including infants, the elderly, and those who are pregnant. Our WIC Project Fresh program successfully transitioned to Produce Connections, a more flexible and accessible model no longer reliant on coupons. Furthermore, we fostered collaboration and knowledge sharing by hosting Community Health Workers from Medicaid health plans throughout the year.

Community Engagement: Demonstrating our commitment to the health and well-being of families, the Nursing Division hosted a successful Back-to-School event for Head Start Families. This comprehensive event offered crucial services, including hearing and vision screenings, immunizations, lead testing, and navigation assistance, ensuring a healthy start to the school year for young learners.

This year's achievements underscore the dedication and innovation of the Nursing Division in serving the Tuscola County community. We look forward to building upon this success in the coming year.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE



Foodborne Group

Campylobacter	13
Cryptosporidiosis	1
Giardiasis	8
Listeriosis	1
Salmonellosis	4
Shiga Toxin-Producing e. Coli (STEC)	1
Yernia Enteritis	3

Other Disease Group

CPO	2
Candida Auris	1
Kawasaki	1
Legionellosis	1
Streptococcal Dis, INV, Grp A	4

Animal Bites Investigated

Tested at BOL	19
Positive	0

Vaccine Preventable Group

H Influenzae Disease	3
Pertussis	1
Shingles	2
VZ Infection, Unspecified	2

Zoonotic Group

Rabies Potential Exp. & PEP	0
Lyme Disease	4

Respiratory Group

Coronavirus	745
Influenza	246
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	7

Viral Hepatitis Group

Hepatitis C, Acute	4
Hepatitis C, Chronic	7

Meningitis Group

Meningitis- Aseptic	2
Meningitis- Bacterial	1
Streptococcus Pneumoniae, Inv	5

Tuberculosis Group

Latent Tuberculosis Infection	3
Nontuberculosis Mycobacterium	1

DISEASE PREVENTION

HEALTH PROMOTION



STI/HIV

459

STI Tests

25

HIV Rapid Tests

8

HIV Venous Tests



Hearing & Vision

2,333

Hearing Screenings

3,220

Vision Screenings



Children Special Health Care Services

306

Clients

Top Diagnoses

- Hearing
- Heart conditions
- Asthma
- Diabetes
- Cerebral Palsy
- Epilepsy



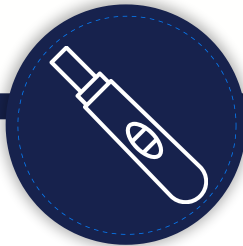
Immunizations

5,494

Vaccines Administered

Top 4

966	COVID
716	Influenza
472	Pneumococcal
379	Meningococcal



Family Planning

46

Pregnancy Tests



MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH



376

MIHP Professional visits



69

MIHP enrollments



482

Tuscola County births



130

Halo Sleep Sacks/Welcome Baby Bags distributed during MIHP visits



30

Pack & Plays distributed

WIC & BREASTFEEDING



1,136

WIC Families



Breastfeeding

84% Initiation rate

71% 2 month duration

45% 6 month duration



WIC Labs

1,208

Hemoglobin tests

363

Lead tests



Produce Connections

New program- limited locations

302

Clients Issued

16% Redemption rate



COMMUNITY OUTREACH & SAFETY



Facebook Insights

Unduplicated Views: 1,094,219
Content Interactions: 19,042
Link Clicks: 9,123
Page Visits: 20,384
New Follows: 485



Medicaid Outreach

Clients Served: 2,762



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Food

Regular inspections are conducted in all food service establishments in Tuscola County, including food trucks, festival food stands, and permanent food locations.

Surface/Groundwater

So a safe and adequate water supply is available, all wells in Tuscola County are installed under permit with final inspections conducted and water sampling performed to determine water quality.

Wastewater

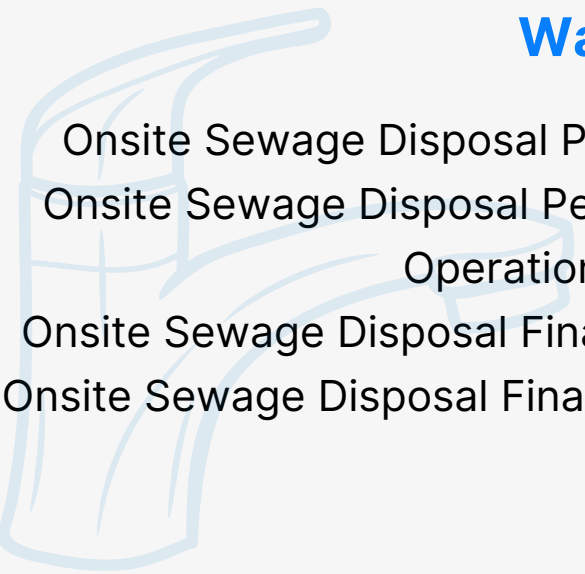
Evaluates and issues permits for the installation of all onsite sewage systems in Tuscola County.

Environmental Quality

Inspecting locations to ensure community health is maintained, including: public swimming pools, licensed campgrounds, licensed day care centers, children’s camps and adult foster care facilities.

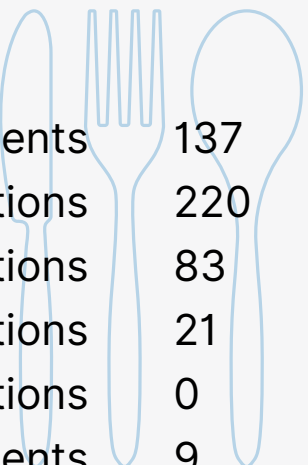


Wastewater



Onsite Sewage Disposal Permits Issued (Residential)	141
Onsite Sewage Disposal Permits Issued (Commercial)	12
Operation/Maintenance Evaluations	21
Onsite Sewage Disposal Final Inspections (Residential)	104
Onsite Sewage Disposal Final Inspections (Commercial)	3
Complaints Investigated	10

Food



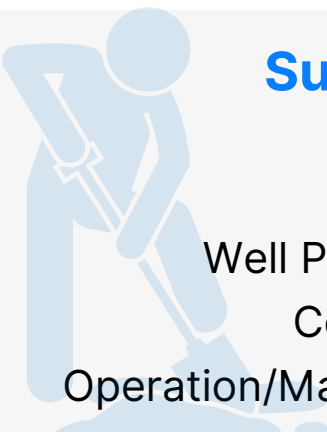
Fixed Food Service Establishments	137
Fixed Food Service Inspections	220
Temporary Food Inspections	83
Transitory Food Inspections	21
Foodborne Illness Investigations	0
New Establishments	9

Environmental Quality



Campground Inspections	19
Public Swimming Pool Inspections	7
Solid Waste	2
Indoor/Outdoor Air	0
Groundwater Quality	43
Mosquito/Insect Control	1
Surface Water	0
Adult/Childcare Facility Inspections	36
Hazardous Waste	0
Body Art	5
Residential Dwellings/Lead Paint	0
Septage Inspections	3
Radon	78

Surface/Groundwater



Well Permits Issues	122
Well Permit Final Inspections	53
Complaints Investigated	4
Operation/Maintenance Evaluations	18

VETERAN'S AFFAIRS

Financial Assistance

Soldiers & Sailors Relief Fund Applications:	14
Assistance Granted:	\$4,631.88
Burial Assistance Applications:	59
Assistance Granted:	\$6,600

DAV Transportation Program

Veterans Transported:	358
Miles Logged:	35,442
Hours Logged:	1,348

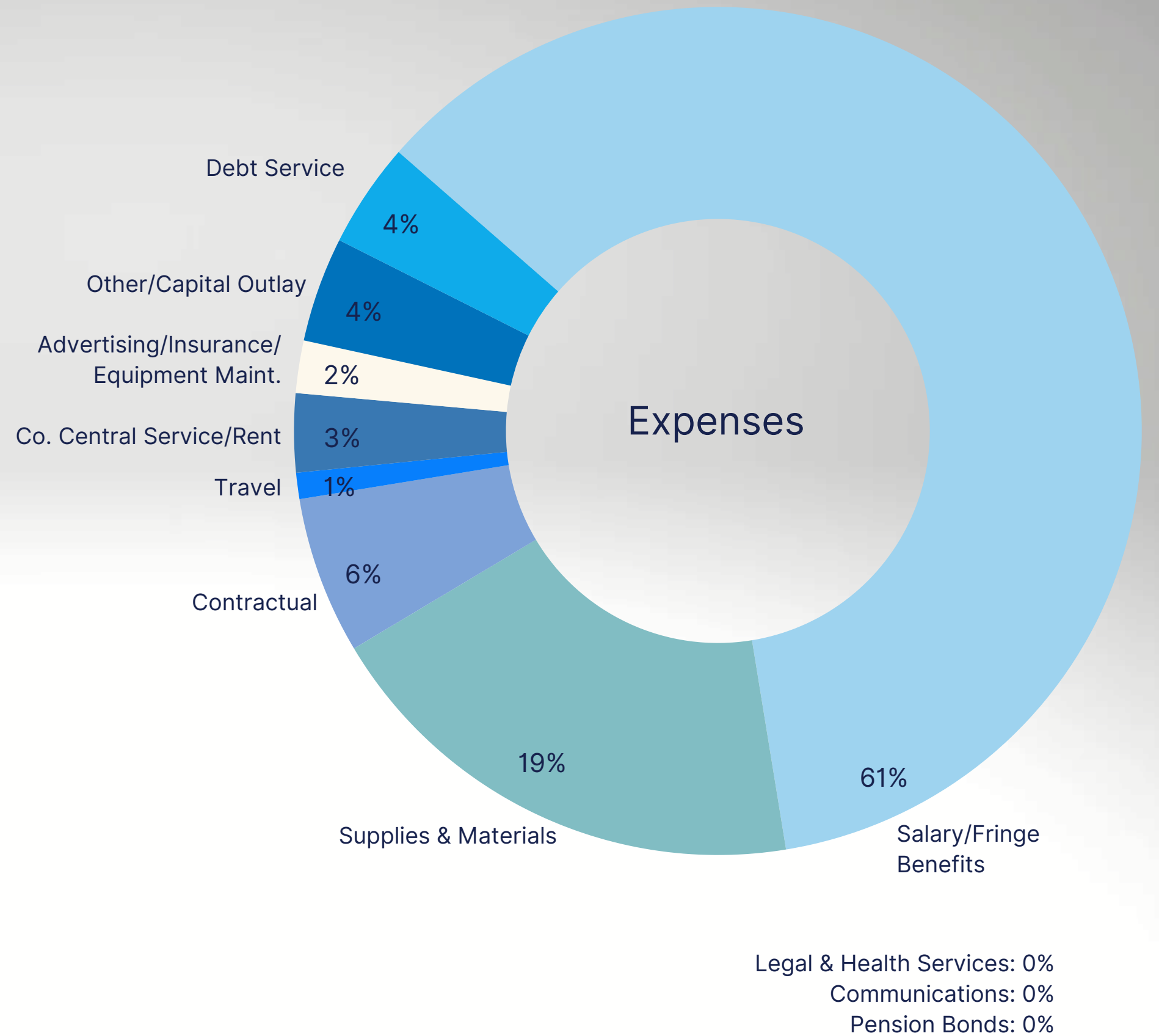
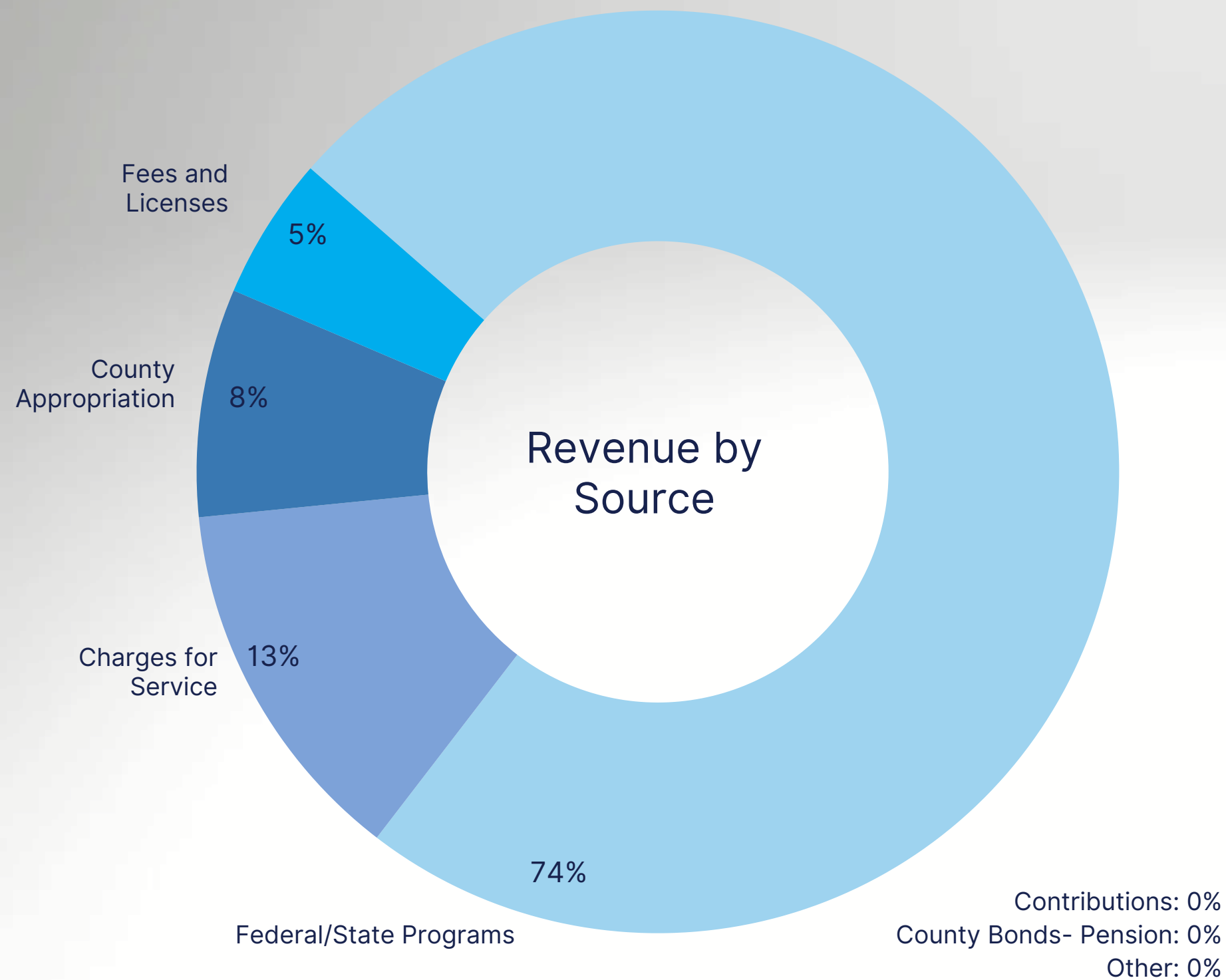
Office Operations

Office Visits:	1,028
Claims Submitted	617

The Fiscal Year 2024 GDX report has not yet been released. Once available, the data will be published.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



TUSCOLA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

THANK YOU

989-673-8114 | @TCHD.US | 1309 CLEAVER RD., CARO, MI 48723

WWW.TCHD.US