

*Working for Hoosiers to provide a safe, secure
and resilient Indiana.*



ANNUAL 2021 REPORT

IDHS Emergency Medical
Services Section



EMS SECTION ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSION Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2021



COVID-19 continued to require significant attention for Indiana EMS personnel in 2021. While many of the same challenges remained from the start of the pandemic in 2020, the situation was much more manageable. Other projects were pursued in 2021 to advance the mission of IDHS and the Indiana EMS Section. Included in this was the creation of a new mobile integrated healthcare coordinator.

Early in the year, we saw the expansion of large-scale vaccination efforts that were enhanced by the Executive Order of the Governor and the EMS Commission's approval of EMTs being able to deliver COVID vaccinations. This approval and collaboration with the Family & Social Services Administration (FSSA) led to the innovative and very successful Homebound Hoosiers program, whereby local EMS providers administered COVID vaccinations to Medicaid recipients who were unable or unwilling to travel to a vaccination site.

The unpredictability of Covid surges required daily attention by the Indiana EMS staff. Mid-year saw the expiration of all the general waivers that had previously been issued in an effort to keep EMS provider agencies operational early during the pandemic. In response, General Waiver #5 was issued and addressed nearly all the elements of the earlier waivers.

Throughout the year, the EMS Section supported Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) in a collaboration to pair EMS provider organizations with IDOH and Indiana National Guard (INNG) teams for vaccine administration sites. This time-consuming effort resulted in the EMS Section staff scheduling for sites on a weekly basis with almost daily changes necessary. EMS District Managers also delivered vaccine doses around the state to facilitate administration during the early part of the year.

One of the ongoing challenges made worse by the pandemic was ambulance diversion and off-loading issues. While neither are new to EMS, they generally have been less pronounced during non-pandemic periods. While COVID hospitalizations increased, EMS providers struggled with hospitals closing their doors at times of peak EMS 911 call volume. Indiana EMS Medical Director Dr. Michael Kaufmann spearheaded guidance for EMS provider agencies and hospitals while interacting regularly with both IDOH and Indiana Hospital Association.

Another program that emerged from the COVID crisis but addressed the diversion issue was an IDOH contract to provide an interfacility transfer team to handle increased interfacility transfer requests across the state. At its peak, there were ten (10) ambulances available through a contract with Tri-County Ambulance. These transfers provided additional ambulances and personnel to keep patients moving between healthcare systems and ultimately free up more inpatient beds. By Dec. 31, 2021, Tri-County had conducted 1,572 interfacility transfers related to the special contract.

Again, related to COVID, the EMS Section operated under the Administration Support Grant received from IDOH. This resulted in a continuation of fogger systems being distributed to EMS provider organizations and a COVID educational series with a professional learning management system (LMS) for presentations. Eight (8) total presentations were developed on COVID-related issues and published in ACADIS with positive responses from users.

A separate EMS issue was the regulation surrounding the procurement, storage, and tracking of controlled substances by EMS provider organizations. In response to changes in Federal Law, the Indiana Board of Pharmacy, at the request of IDHS, removed a general waiver for ambulance providers from obtaining a controlled substance registration (CSR) and adopted new rules. Dr. Kaufmann initiated this Indiana change, and the EMS staff was instrumental in providing background information and context for the rule adoption.

Since the rule adoption in August, the EMS Section has provided written guidance, on-site guidance, and even ACADIS educational resources for this important change in EMS practice. A final area of focus for the EMS section in 2021 was mobile integrated healthcare. Besides hiring a full-time MIH Coordinator, the year saw the adoption of an approval process for organizations to register their MIH programs and make them eligible for future Medicaid reimbursement in the future. A grant opportunity presented itself legislatively, and the EMS Section was given the authority to distribute \$100,000 funding to six EMS provider organizations for either new MIH programs or the expansion of existing programs. This grant process was created and implemented in less than 90 days.

Proud of these accomplishments in 2021, the EMS section looks forward to promoting positive changes for the entire Indiana EMS system in 2022.

Respectfully,



Kraig Kinney
State Director and Counsel of Indiana EMS

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Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH)

MIH is a patient-centered model of care delivered in a patient's home or in a mobile environment. This includes teams that come to patients as well as the use of telehealth platforms. Community paramedics can visit patients at their homes and assist with health screenings, vaccinations, treatments and follow-ups. MIH can also include social work, substance abuse resources, mental health, chronic disease management and more.

Legislation in 2019 and 2020 has propelled MIH forward in Indiana, and the Indiana EMS Commission has implemented a program to formally approve MIH programs in Indiana. A Commission subcommittee provides guidance and structure to communities seeking to create their own MIH program or expand existing programs. More than a dozen Indiana communities have already established community paramedicine programs using private or grant funding.

The Commission launched a grant program, facilitated by the Indiana EMS Section, to support EMS providers looking to establish MIH programs. The first round of funding distributed \$100,000 to six Indiana programs.

- Crawfordsville Fire Department (Montgomery County): \$15,000
- Elkhart Fire Department (Elkhart County): \$20,000
- Monticello Fire Department (White County): \$15,000
- Muncie Fire Department (Delaware County): \$15,000
- Noblesville Fire Department (Hamilton County): \$20,000
- Vincennes Township Fire Department (Knox County): \$15,000



The Indiana MIH initiative has seen significant progress in the past year.

- Brittany Fortinberry was hired as the MIH Coordinator in June. Her position is a full-time staff member that is assigned to MIH guidance development and program development.
- Site visits: 28
- MIH development calls: 36

MIH Advisory Committee meetings were held six times in 2021. Director Kinney is chairperson of the Committee with Dr. Kaufmann as a key member of the committee.

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Director Kraig Kinney activity

Director Kinney spent considerable time working with the EMS Commission in various initiatives, including the MIH effort. He manages the day-to-day operations of the Indiana EMS Section staff at IDHS in addition to working with external audiences on initiatives that impact the whole of the EMS system.

- Indiana EMS Commission Ex Officio member
- Indiana Mobile Integrated Healthcare Committee, Chairperson
- Indiana EMS Education Workgroup
- Indiana EMS Association Board Ex Officio Member
- National Association of EMS Officials (NASEMSO) Great Lake's Regional Chairperson
Member of the Board of Directors



Michael Kaufmann, State EMS Medical Director

Dr. Kaufmann speaks at numerous engagements as requested, around 13 separate engagements in 2021, including district and regional conferences. Of note, he continued his annual keynote address of Indiana EMS Update at the Indiana Emergency Response Conference, was a speaker with the Indiana Rural Health Association Conference, participated in the CDC National Forum on Coronavirus Disease, and represented IDHS EMS with a report and testimony at the legislative Summer Study Session on Trauma.

Conferences Attended as a Guest Speaker/Presenter

- Indiana Healthcare Finance Management Conference
- Emergency Department Practice Management Alliance
- Ascension Emergency Medicine Symposium
- First There First Care Conference
- Indiana Rural Health Association Conference
- District 8 Emergency Preparedness Conference
- Indiana Healthcare Finance Management Conference
- Emergency Department Practice Management Alliance
- Ascension Emergency Medicine Symposium

- First There First Care Conference
- Indiana Rural Health Association Conference
- District 8 Emergency Preparedness Conference
- Indiana Emergency Response Conference
- National Association of State EMS Officials Virtual Medical Directors Council Conference
- CDC National Forum on Coronavirus Disease
- ACEP Research Forum
- Summer Study Session on Trauma
- D10 EMS Medical Directors Conference

Committees or Recurring Group Calls

- Stroke Consortium of Indiana
- Governor's Coronavirus Task Force
- NASEMSO Medical Directors Council
- EMS Commission Meetings (Ex-Officio member)
- Indiana State Trauma Care Committee
- Homebound Hoosiers Planning Committee
- Mobile Integrated Health Advisory Committee
- National Association of State EMS Officials Indiana Board of Directors
- Indiana Patient Safety Coalition EMS Diversion Committee
- Indiana ACEP Board of Directors
- Indiana EMS for Children Board of Directors
- NAEMSP National EMS Education Committee

Reports and Publications

- Indiana EMS Quality Improvement Report
- Indiana EMS Pediatric Incident Report
- Summer Study Session Trauma Care
- IDHS Ambulance Diversion and Parking Guidance
- Homebound Hoosier Summary and Overview
(submitted to CDC MMWR)



EMS Commission Activity

EMS Commission 2021 meetings

• February 19:

- Authorization for Commissioner John Zartman to review continuing education credits for standardized courses such as AHA and education oversight.
- Approved a template for mechanical aids to CPR agreement between non-transport and transport providers.

• April 16:

- Approved a new policy for a mobile integrated healthcare program to be “approved” and qualify for future billing reimbursement.
- Adopted a non-rule policy (NRP) for provider organization late submission of certifications.

• June 11:

- Approved mobile integrated healthcare grant program and Notice of Funding Opportunity.
- Set deadline of January 1, 2022, to use the approved current version of EMS continuing education forms and retiring the older versions.

• July 30:

- SPECIAL SESSION. Approved six (6) applicants to receive mobile integrated healthcare grant funding.

• September 15

- Met on-site at Indiana Emergency Response Conference.
- Approved Peyton Manning Children's Hospital as a Pediatric Trauma Center.
- Approved initial seven (7) Mobile Integrated Healthcare programs under the Commission policy.
- EMS Fatigue Study Committee formed.

• October 28:

- Met at French Lick with EMS Association Conference.



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IDHS EMS Staff Overview

Kraig Kinney, State EMS Director:

Designated by IDHS to supervise the EMS Section and handle all operational aspects of EMS for the State of Indiana. This position is the State representative for national EMS organizations. Reports to the State Fire Marshall in the Division of Fire & Building Safety.

Dr. Michael Kaufmann, State EMS Medical Director:

Designated by IDHS to supervise the EMS Section and handle all operational aspects of EMS for the State of Indiana. This position is the State representative for national EMS organizations. Reports to the State Fire Marshall in the Division of Fire & Building Safety.

Robin Stump, Operations Section Chief:

Responsible for the supervision of the district managers and support for EMS organizations including organization certifications.

Candice Pope, EMS Certifications and Compliance:

Responsible for the supervision of all individual certifications and the audit program.

Tony Pagano, EMS Training Coordinator:

Responsible for guidance to training institutions and primary instructors as well as all EMS course offerings in Indiana.

EMS District Manager (Stan Frank, Jason Smith, Don Watson):

Provide resources or information and guidance on EMS issues in their assigned district(s).

EMS & Fire Data Manager (vacant):

Responsible for the system of collecting and processing of EMS and fire data from EMS and fire providers in Indiana.

Brittany Fortenberry, Mobile Integrated Healthcare Provider:

Responsible for guidance and oversight of Indiana's mobile integrated health programs.

Tim Layton, Mobile Simulation Laboratory Coordinator:

Responsible for all operations with the mobile Sim Lab including actual training. Also handles special EMS training initiatives.



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2021 Legislative Session – Impacts on EMS

HEA 1002: Clarified civil immunity related to COVID-19.

HEA 1118: Expanded existing legislation for mental health safety plans to permit the inclusion of mobile integrated healthcare program providers to participate.

HEA 1201: Expanded the EMS scope of practice for certain life-saving procedures for operational canine (law enforcement, fire rescue, etc.)

HEA 1230: Safe Haven law clarified that individuals may call 911 and surrender custody of a child to EMS responders.

SEA 232: Added COVID-19 to exposure list disease list for death and disability for public safety personnel.

2021 Legislative Session – Impacts on EMS

Former State EMS Director Mike Garvey was presented with both the EMS Commission State EMS Director Emeritus recognition and the State Fire Marshal's Meritorious Service Award on May 1, 2021, at the Indiana EMS Associations Awards Recognition Banquet. Garvey retired in February of 2020 after 34 years of service to the State.



Indiana EMS by the Numbers (2021)

Certifications and Compliance Subsection

- Individual Certifications Audit information – 865 total audits in 2021
 - 743 total approved audits
 - 122 did not turn in paperwork
- Administrative Orders breakdown – 20 administrative sanctions were issued in 2021
 - One Training Institution sanction - Probation
 - 19 Personnel sanctions (2 Organizations) issued
 - Censure, civil penalty, and remediation – 1
 - Reprimand with civil penalty – 3
 - 90-day suspension, civil penalty and 2-year probation – 2
 - 30-day suspension, civil penalty and 2-year probation - 1
 - 2-year probation with civil penalty -1
 - Emergency suspension – 2
 - Revocation – 3
 - Cease and desist with civil penalty – 1
 - Rescinding order – 2 (for improperly issued certifications)
 - 2-year probation – 1
 - Denial order – 1
 - Censure with civil penalty – 1
- Personnel Waivers issued breakdown – 42 personnel waivers issued in 2021
 - 1 waiver was denied
 - 41 were granted
 - Primary Instructor prerequisite waiver - 37
 - Requirement for EMT testing for reacquiring cert due to extenuating circumstances -3
- Requirement for Paramedic testing for reacquiring cert due to extenuating circumstances -1

New certifications issued by level

AEMT	63
EMR	472
EMT	1199
EVOC	402
EVOC Instructor	26
Paramedic	308
PI	69

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• Total numbers of certifications by level (as of December 31, 2021)

EMR	19.5%	4,595
EMT	55.5%	13,059
AEMT	2.7%	655
Paramedic	19.5%	4,584
Primary Instructor	2.6%	620
TOTAL:		23,513

• **Military Reciprocity for EMT**

- 15 applied
- 10 are currently certified.

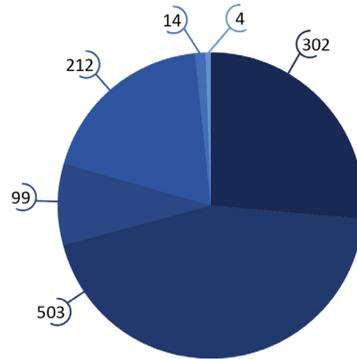
Operations Subsection

- Audits: 55
- Inspections: 66
- **Complaints**
 - Received and investigated: 83
 - Currently open as of December 31, 2021: 25
- **Waiver orders**
 - Total provider waivers: 16
 - 12 waivers regarding 24/7 requirement
 - 1 waiver regarding inter-facility transfer staffing
 - 2 waivers regarding staffing of ambulance during transport
 - 1 waiver regarding vehicle used as a special response
 - **Total training Institution waivers: 2**
 - General Order waivers: 2
 - General Waiver #5 for public health emergency
 - General Waiver for data requirements – providers with less than 10 responses per year are exempt from submitting data.

Organization Certification Statistics (as of Dec. 31, 2021)

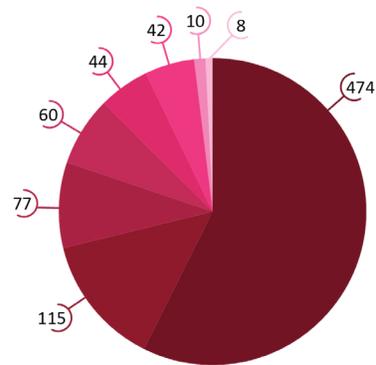
Total provider organizations: 831

- Transporting ambulance service providers
- BLS non-transport providers
- BLS transport providers
- Paramedic provider organizations
- Rotorcraft organizations



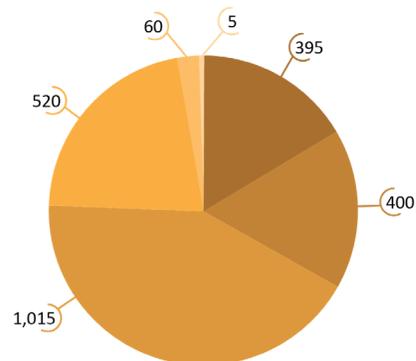
Providers organization by type: 831

- Volunteer Fire
- Paid Fire
- Governmental
- Private
- Hospital based
- Volunteer Ambulance
- Industrial
- Other



Certified vehicles by type: 2,396

- Type I (Ambulance)
- Type II (Ambulance)
- Type III (Ambulance)
- ALS Non-transport
- Rotorcraft
- Fixed Wing



Certified vehicles by District

	Ambulances	ALS non-transport
District 1	270	51
District 2	152	67
District 3	117	45
District 4	111	19
District 5	438	238
District 6	314	37
District 7	80	13
District 8	48	19
District 9	191	22
District 10	90	9

Here are the totals for vehicles by districts for and 2020 and 2019

Total Ambulances in state 1,773 (2,022)

- D1 – 261 (363) D6 – 292 (301)
- D2 – 148 (145) D7 – 80 (84)
- D3 – 110 (111) D8 – 47 (49)
- D4 – 100 (120) D9 – 197 (245)
- D5 – 430 (492) D10 – 108 (112)

Total ALS non-transport vehicles 476 (584)
 Total Rotocraft statewide 54 (52)

• EMS / Fire Data

- Annual average reporting EMS organizations: 310.
- 95% reporting average of all required EMS organizations.
- Implementation of a new process for submitting tickets with a Ticket Tracker.
- Many questions are still fielded directly with EMS district managers.
- 104 EMS/Fire tickets submitted and addressed through the system.

- **EMS Courses**
 - EMR Approved Courses: 79
 - EMT Approved Courses: 228
 - Advanced EMT Approved Courses: 7
 - Paramedic Approved Courses: 25
 - School of EMS had two (2) satellite paramedic courses as well.
- **Training and Education Subsection**
 - Training Institutions
 - Beginning Total Training Institutions: 116
 - Year-end Total Training Institutions: 118
 - BLS Training Institutions: 42
 - ALS Training Institutions: 76
 - Seven (7) training institutions dropped certification while there were nine (9) new training institutions approved in 2021, including three new paramedic programs: Ivy Tech Indianapolis, Lifeline Ambulance Service, and St. Mary of the Woods College.
- **Practical Examinations**
 - 142 State EMT Practical Examinations conducted
 - EMS section staff covered 37 practical exams
 - 35 active State Representatives representing all 10 districts.
- **Compliance and Program Interaction**
 - 12 Inspections conducted (Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9)
 - Includes class assessments, practical assessments
 - 16 audits conducted (Districts 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
 - Audit is the full review of training institution and its practices
 - 20 interactions (including PI Course introduction, site visits, program assistance)
 - Mobile Simulation Laboratory (Tim Layton Coordinator)
 - Deployed 100 locations
 - Trained/educated 1,173 individuals (EMR 22, EMT 863, AEMT 16, paramedic 325, and non-EMS 91)

- CPR Program (Tim Layton Coordinator)
 - CPR Courses offered for government workers in 2021
 - 312 state personnel trained in CPR during 2021 from March through December (no classes due to COVID in January and February).
- In-House IDHS EMS Continuing Education (Tim Layton Coordinator) About 20 employees that are EMS certified (EMRs, EMTs, paramedics)
 - Monthly education presentation sessions
 - Two annual skills practice sessions
 - Number of new ACADIS EMS training offerings – 14
 - Includes new EMS Leadership offerings
 - Includes new COVID education offerings
 - Includes EMS Commission and Mobile Integrated Healthcare Advisory Committee offerings.



Trainings Completed by Indiana EMS/Acadis

<u>Course</u>	<u>Date Available</u>	<u>Successful Completions</u>
Multiple Casualty & Triage	2/4/2021	1975
Triage Exercise	8/19/2021	342
Principles of Vaccine Administration	11/30/2020	1223
Vaccines 101: A Basic Understanding	12/16/2020	1919
EMS LEADERSHIP SERIES		
EMS Leadership Series - Operations	03/03/2021	267
EMS Leadership Series - Complaints and Disciplinary Process	03/03/2021	290
EMS Leadership Series - Training Officer	8/19/2021	106
EMS Leadership Series - Supervising Hospital	11/22/2021	15
EMS COVID EDUCATION SERIES (IDOH ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT GRANT)		
EMS Patient Privacy and EMS Right to Know Overview	9/8/2021	175
Mental Awareness During a Pandemic	9/8/2021	297
Aerosol Transmission Diseases	9/16/2021	79
Basics of Cleaning and Decontamination	9/17/2021	232
PPE Overview: Doffing & Donning	9/17/2021	168
Respiratory Distress: Acute Dyspnea and Beyond	9/29/2021	42
EMS Registry Overview and Data Use	10/13/2021	60

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EMS Commission 2021 Meeting Recordings		
EMS Commission, February 2021	4/5/2021	166
EMS Commission, April 2021	6/2/2021	141
EMS Commission, June 2021	6/23/2021	78
EMS Commission, July 2021	11/3/2021	24
EMS Commission, September 2021	11/16/2021	24
Mobile Integrated Healthcare Committee Recordings		
MIH Committee, March 2021	3/18/2021	92
MIH Committee, May 2021	6/28/2021	37
MIH Committee, September 2021	11/3/2021	20
MIH Committee, November 2021	1/3/2022	4