



HEALTH FIRST INDIANA

2024

2025

2026

Developed

June 5, 2024

Kosciusko County Health Department

OUR MISSION

The Kosciusko County Health Department's mission is to promote, protect, and improve the public health of all Kosciusko County citizens and visitors in a cost-effective and servant-like manner.

Health First Indiana Overview

In August 2021, Governor Eric J. Holcomb established the Governor's Public Health Commission (GPHC) and dedicated the task of determining the functionality of Indiana's public health system. The commission analyzed the public health system for both strengths and weaknesses, funding challenges, and how to provide the highest level of health to Indiana residents. In addition, the commission provided information on how to ensure the sustainability of local health departments and improve future responses to public health emergencies. The commission then submitted their findings and provided recommendations. The GPHC determined the following areas were in need of growth and improvement:

Commission Workstreams

- Emergency Preparedness
- Public Health Funding
- Governance, Infrastructure, and Services
- Workforce
- Data and Information Integration
- Child and Adolescent Health

During and after the COVID-19 pandemic, it became apparent that there were gaps within the public health system. The GPHC worked on providing ways to transform the public health system by identifying the issues and providing more opportunities for healthcare. (Commission Report and other information regarding Health First Indiana (<https://www.in.gov/healthfirstindiana/>)).

Health First Indiana is an initiative created by Senate Enrolled Act 4, legislation passed by the 2023 Indiana General Assembly that transforms public health. The legislation provides funding so counties can determine the health needs of their community and implement evidence-based programs focused on prevention. Health First Indiana establishes a public health infrastructure through a state and local partnership where services are delivered at the county level. Counties decide whether to opt-in to the new funding and providing the core public health services, including trauma and injury prevention, chronic disease prevention, maternal and child health and more.

Quick Facts about Health First Indiana

\$75 million in 2024, \$150 million in 2025

Investment in prevention leads to healthier communities and workforce, which attracts local businesses and improves the economy

Brings together local elected officials, public health, clinical health and community partners

Partnerships allow us to identify gaps and reduce duplication to ensure the efficient delivery of services

Benefits rural communities that often have fewer resources, such as free health screenings and connection to care

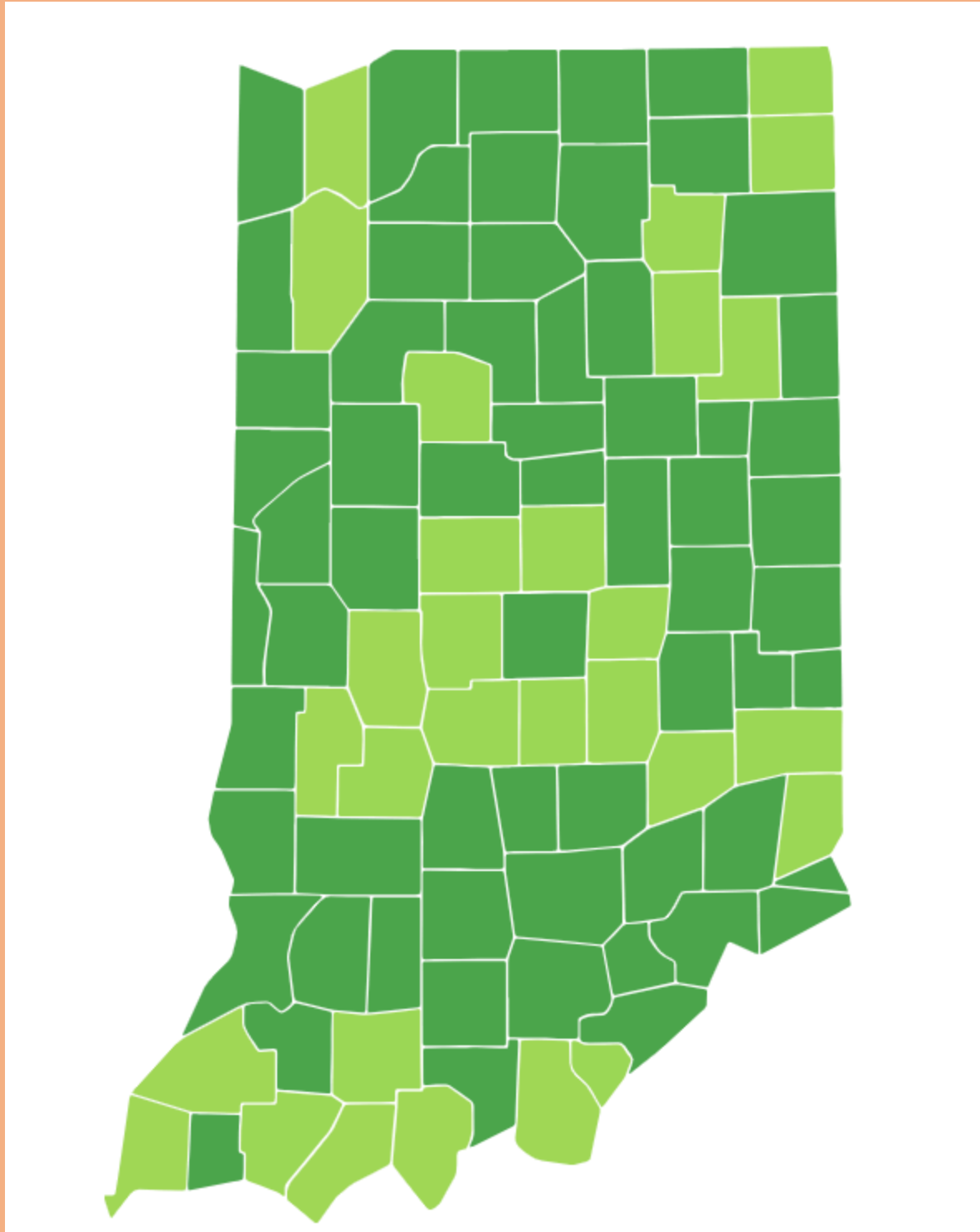
More than 1.4 million services were provided in the first year of Health First Indiana

Process for Counties to Opt-in

County Commissioners vote to opt-in, County Council approves the budget

Opt-in deadline is Sept. 1

Counties have established key performance outcomes and activities are reported twice a year. View each LHD's key performance outcomes and activities on the Your Community Info page.



In 2024, 86 counties opted-in to receive the first disbursement of Health First Indiana funding. In 2025, all 92 Indiana counties opted-in to receive Health First Indiana funding.

LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING

Kosciusko County

OPTED IN FOR 2025: \$1,871,327.38
Funding Per Capita: \$23.32

2023:	\$83,455.35 (Legacy amount from Local Health Maintenance Fund/Trust)	
2024:	\$968,263.83	2024 Kosciusko County Budget 2024 Financial Report
County Match:	Average of county tax levy-related funds distributed to the LHD in the preceding three years (2021, 2022, 2023).	
2025 (Opt In):	\$1,871,327.38	2025 Kosciusko County Budget
County Match:	Minimum: \$391,170.00	
2026:	\$467,987.05	

Expenses that Cannot be Funded Through Health First Indiana:

- Personal items
- Services not related to Core Public Health Services
- Alcoholic beverages
- Duplicate payments and/or overpayments
- Capital expenses
- Scholarships
- Donations
- State or federal lobbying or any political activity
- Food or beverages (unless used for educational purposes)
- Tobacco/Vaping Prevention and Cessation (unless paired with Maternal and Child Health or Student Health)
- Any unallowable expenditure further determined by the Indiana State Board of Accounts and Indiana State Law
 - Legislative Requirements: Legislative changes occurred that affect the usage of HFI dollars in April of 2025. IC 16-46-10-3 (f) requires “funds may only be used for Indiana residents who are lawfully present in the United States,” and IC 16-20-1-12 (c)(1) has been amended to eliminate “Tobacco Prevention and Cessation from the list of core services for which Health First Indiana funds may be spent.”

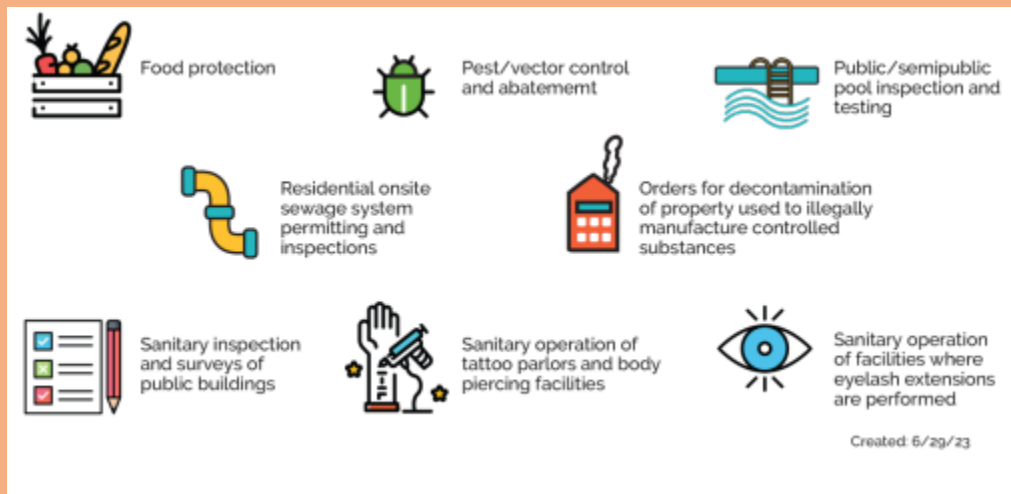
Core Public Health Services and Key Performance Indicators

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) For Core Public Health Services

At least 60% of funding must be spent for preventative core services addressed by these KPIs:



Up to 40% of funding can be spent for core services addressed by these KPIs:



Core public health services must be provided by the local health department or a local organization in partnership with the local health department in compliance with Health First Indiana. The local health department will report on key performance indicators to the Indiana Department of Health.

*Note: Tobacco and Vaping Prevention and Cessation is no longer a core service for HFI.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY

PUBLIC HEALTH SCORECARD

Dashboard Refreshed 10/23/2025

Visit: <https://www.in.gov/healthfirstindiana/county-health-scorecard/>

Kosciusko County			
Topic	Rate	Indiana rate	Rank
Adult Obesity	45.4%	44%	#29
Children < 3 Years Old Completing Recommended Vaccine Series	56.3%	62.2%	#78
Cigarette Smoking During Pregnancy	6.7%	5.3	#31
Infant Mortality Rate	7.69	6.7	#54
Life Expectancy	76.0	75.1	#29
Opioid Overdose Rate	13.0	25.07	#28
Smoking Rate	18.1%	17.9%	#28
Suicide Rate	12.4	16.0	#4
Years of Potential Life Lost Due to Injury (Age-Adjusted)	1593.1	2527.14	#16

Health First Kosciusko

Local KPIs

STI/HIV/HEP C/HARM REDUCTION

- Decrease the number of early syphilis cases identified in Kosciusko County (primary, secondary and early latent syphilis) from seven in 2020 to four in 2029

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

- Decrease the rate of women not receiving early prenatal care from 30.5% in 2022 to 26.5% by 2027
- Decrease the rate of teen births from 18.8 per 1,000 in 2022 to 16.9 per 1,000 by 2028

CHRONIC DISEASE

- Increase the average age of death related to heart disease being 76.5 from 2020-2024 to 78.5 from 2025-2029

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CORE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

ADDRESSED IN 2024 WITH HFI FUNDING

- **Chronic Disease Prevention**
- **Fatality Review**
- **Maternal and Child Health**
- **Student Health**
- **Tobacco and Vaping Prevention and Cessation**

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CORE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

ADDRESSED IN 2025 WITH HFI FUNDING

- **Chronic Disease Prevention**
- **Fatality Review**
- **Infectious Disease Prevention and Control**
- **Maternal and Child Health**
- **Student Health/School Health Liaison**
- **Trauma and Injury Prevention**
- **Tobacco and Vaping Prevention and Cessation (January - June 2025)**
- **Vital Records**

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY CORE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
ADDRESSED IN 2026 WITH HFI FUNDING

- **Access and Linkage to Clinical Care**
- **Chronic Disease Prevention**
- **Fatality Review**
- **Immunizations**
- **Infectious Disease Prevention and Control**
- **Maternal and Child Health**
- **Student Health/School Health Liaison**
- **Trauma and Injury Prevention**

2024 PARTNERSHIPS

- 1 Eighty Digital
 - Partnered with to enhance social media for the KCHD Early Start Prenatal Program
 - Total award: \$4,860
- Breathe Well Coalition
 - Joined coalition to continue to provide and expand cessation resources and youth vaping prevention.
 - Total award: \$99,201
- CFR: Child Fatality Review
- Chronic Disease and Obesity Coalition
 - Joined coalition to continue to provide and expand education and resources to the community.
 - Total award: \$112,125.53
- FIMR: Fetal Infant Mortality Review
- Lakeland Christian Academy
 - Initiatives include purchasing clothing and hygiene supplies to provide to students in need, serving food and water to students with food insecurities, purchase of an AED unit, stocking emergency medications, and providing sex education courses.
 - Total award: \$7,650
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church and School
 - Initiatives include providing courses through McMillen Health to educate students on matters related to healthy eating, exercise, and tobacco and vaping prevention and providing the DARE program through the Warsaw Police Department to educate students on vaping prevention.
 - Total award: \$2,953
- SOFR: Suicide Overdose Fatality Review

- Tippecanoe Valley School Corporation
 - Initiatives include hiring an additional mental health therapist, expanding counseling services, forming community partnerships, professional development training and opportunities.
 - Total award: \$32,850
- Warsaw Community Schools
 - Created the Welcome Center to provide and refer new and returning students with vision and hearing screenings, vaccinations and other services that can assist with medical needs.
 - Total award: \$123,750
- Warsaw Community Schools
 - Partnered with to provide a School Health Liaison to connect the Kosciusko County Health Department to the 6 school systems in the county
 - \$78,102
- Wawasee Community School Corporation
 - Initiatives include McMillan Health providing education to 4th and 5th grades about the dangers of vaping and purchasing hydroponic equipment and supplies to encourage healthy eating practices to students
 - Total award: \$49,500
- Whitko Community School Corporation (Pierceton Elementary School)
 - Initiatives include purchasing clothing and hygiene supplies to provide to students in need, supporting the Boomerang Backpack program for weekend food bags, creating a mentoring program with adults in the community, and hosting an anti-bullying presentation to provide additional education and awareness to students.
 - Total award: \$6,750

2025 PARTNERSHIPS

- 1Eighty Digital
 - Social Media marketing for the KCHD Early Start Prenatal Program
 - Total Award: \$4,860
- CFR: Child Fatality Review
- FIMR: Fetal Infant Mortality Review
- SOFR: Suicide Overdose Fatality Review
- Fellowship Missions
 - On-site nurse practitioner
 - Total Award: \$15,000
- Grace College - Center for Literacy and Learning
 - Physical activity during tutoring sessions
 - Total Award: \$80,000
- Kensington Digital Radio
 - Marketing for the KCHD Early Start Prenatal Program - \$5,400
- Kosciusko Community YMCA Indoor Fitness for Active Older Adults
 - Total Award: \$12,005
- La Raza Radio
 - Marketing for the KCHD Early Start Prenatal Program - \$1,680
- Lakeland Christian Academy
 - Food and water, hygiene supplies, feminine hygiene supplies, clothing, emergency medications, sex education material
 - Total Award: \$15,300
- Live Well Kosciusko
 - Breathe Well Coalition - \$52,080.53
 - Chronic Disease & Obesity Coalition - \$58,865.90
 - Kosciusko County Food Security Coalition - \$48,878.20
 - Kosciusko County Clubhouse - \$15,000

- NIMCHN - Northern Indiana Maternal and Child Health Network
 - Total Award: \$84,000
- Tippecanoe Valley School Corporation
 - Mental Health Therapist
 - Total Award: \$65,700
- Warsaw Community Schools
 - Welcome Center - \$247,500
 - School Health Liaison - \$78,102
- Wawasee School Corporation
 - Hydroponics
 - McMillen Health Education Programs
 - Total Award: \$99,000
- Whitko School Corporation - Pierceton Elementary School
 - Hygiene, Clothing, Boomerang Backpacks, Mentoring Program
 - Total Award: \$13,000

Other

- KCHD Early Start Prenatal Program
 - KABs Vouchers
 - Fuel Cards - Lassus
 - Grocery Cards - Kroger
 - Car Seats
 - Cribs
 - Sleep Sacks
- AED Equipment
 - Fellowship Missions
 - Salvation Army
 - Pierceton Elementary School
 - Tippecanoe Valley School Corp
 - Cardinal Services
 - Wawasee Community School Corp
 - The Magical Meadows

- St Anthony's Kosciusko Free Clinic
 - Laptop
 - Blood Pressure Monitor
 - Pulse Oximeter
 - Diabetic Test Strips - Blood Sugar Monitor
 - Thermometer
 - Blood Glucose Meter

2026 PARTNERSHIPS

- CFR: Child Fatality Review
- FIMR: Fetal Infant Mortality Review
- SOFR: Suicide Overdose Fatality Review
- Fellowship Missions
 - Continuation of on-site nurse practitioner
 - Total Award: \$15,000
- Kosciusko Community YMCA Indoor Fitness for Active Older Adults
 - Total Award: \$11,085
- Live Well Kosciusko
 - Chronic Disease & Obesity and Student Health - \$95,000
 - Mobile Mammography - \$10,000
- NIMCHN - Northern Indiana Maternal and Child Health Network
 - Total Award: \$60,596
- Warsaw Community Schools
 - School Health Liaison for Kosciusko County Schools
 - Total Award: \$82,000