



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of March 21, 2023

A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco

<https://www.dph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

Today, there are over 195,992 San Francisco residents with confirmed cases of COVID-19. And, sadly, a total of 1,171 San Franciscans have died. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) sends our condolences to their loved ones.

PRIORITIZING WOMEN'S HEALTH AT DPH

March is Women's History Month and an opportunity to highlight the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. There is a vast amount of work that Team DPH does to promote and protect the health and wellness of women and girls, including trans women and nonbinary people, in our hospitals and clinics, and with our programs throughout the City.

At DPH, we strive to break down barriers to care and provide quality health services to women and girls at every stage of life. We promote health equity for all, particularly for historically underserved and vulnerable populations, such as BIPOC women, asylees and refugees, immigrants, LGBTQIA+, and women experiencing homelessness.

We are proud to provide the highest quality health care throughout DPH. Our clinical services for children, families, and pregnant people are top notch and grounded in community partnerships to increase resources throughout San Francisco.

Beyond the clinical side of health care, DPH offers public health interventions in cancer navigation, food security and other issues that differently impact women and families. Our policy, data science, and community engagement endeavors keep us informed and guide us on how to make the greatest impact on the people we are honored to serve.

Here are some women's health facts about DPH that we are proud to celebrate this March:

- Our robust network of caregivers is aligned in the objective to provide safe and effective health care for all people who seek to terminate an unwanted or unsafe pregnancy.
- The Women's Options Center at ZSFG is one of the only programs in the country where women can access abortion services at a public hospital.
- We offer prenatal care in more than 20 languages at ZSFG and at our Primary Care clinics.



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- The Black Infant Health Program, aimed at reducing perinatal health disparities, provides case management, mental health support, and group sessions for pregnant and parenting Black/African American people.
- Maternal Child and Adolescent Health's Field Public Health Nursing program provides public health nurse visits during pregnancy and after delivery to help ensure a healthy pregnancy and prepare new parents.
- Castro Mission Health Center's co-located Dimensions Clinic provides primary care and integrated behavioral health to adolescents and transitional aged youth, with a particular focus on LGBTQIA+ youth and youth experiencing homelessness.
- The Abundant Birth Project, which provides supplemental income to pregnant people impacted by health and economic disparities, is expanding to four more counties in the state based on its success in San Francisco.
- The Team Lily program and Perinatal Stabilization program supports pregnant people experiencing homelessness, substance use disorders, incarceration, intimate partner violence, and mental health disorders.
- The [DontThinkKnow.org](https://www.dontthinkknow.org) program provides free home tests for chlamydia and gonorrhea to girls and women ages 12-30.
- DPH has mental health and substance use disorder treatment programs specifically tailored for women, women with small children, and transgender and gender nonconforming adolescents and adults.
- DPH operates and/or supports more than 100 behavioral health programs for children, youth and families.
- DPH's mobile crisis team responds 24/7 to crisis interventions for children and adolescents.
- Here at DPH, 69% of our department is comprised of women!

HIGHLIGHTING WORLD TB DAY 2023 EVENTS

Each year, we recognize World TB Day on March 24. This annual event commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of the bacillus that causes tuberculosis (TB). World TB Day is a day to educate the public about the impact of TB around the world, share successes in TB prevention and control and raise awareness of the challenges that hinder our progress toward the elimination of this devastating disease. This week, DPH's Disease Prevention & Control Branch would like to highlight [the following events](#):

- Our 2022 [Annual TB Bulletin](#) with an updated incidence map and other data will be published on March 24th after publication of the CDC's [MMWR](#) update and release of [CDPH TB data tables](#) for 2022.



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- The San Francisco TB Clinic will be featured in a [World TB Day Symposium](#) hosted by the UCSF TB Center. In addition to moderated talks with the TB Clinic medical and nursing team, a San Francisco TB Survivor will share her story.
- Staff members from SF TB Prevention and Control will be hosted by the Community Living Room, a collaboration of [San Francisco Community Health Center](#), [Code Tenderloin](#) and [City Hope](#) to provide education about TB prevention and testing resources. (When: 12:00 – 2:00pm on March 23, 2023, Where: City Hope Café, 750 Ellis St)
- San Francisco City Hall will be illuminated in red in recognition of World TB Day on the evening of March 24th joining prominent landmarks around the country and the world

VISION ZERO SF

Vision Zero SF is the City’s road safety policy that builds safety and livability into our streets, protecting the one million people who move about the City every day. Vision Zero SF is an interdepartmental collaborative, committed to building better and safer streets, educate the public on traffic safety, enforce traffic laws, and adopt policy changes that save lives. The Population Health Division (PHD) of DPH is one of Vision Zero SF’s collaborative partners, and they have recently shared the following 2023 year-to-date data regarding traffic fatalities in our City:

Traffic Victim	2023		2022		2021		2020		2019		2018	
	Feb. Count	YTD Total	Feb. Count	YTD Total	Feb. Count	YTD Total	Feb. Count	YTD Total	Feb. Count	YTD Total	Feb. Count	YTD Total
People Killed While Walking	0	3	0	1	2	3	1	1	1	3	1	1
People Killed While Cycling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
People Killed While Riding a Standup Powered Device	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
People Killed While Riding in a Motor or Transit Vehicle	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
People Killed While Riding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0



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outside a Motor or Transit Vehicle												
People Killed While on a Moped	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
People Killed While on a Motorcycle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
People Killed While Driving	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1
TOTAL	1	5	0	2	2	4	1	4	2	4	1	2

The [Vision Zero Fatality Reporting Map](#) will be updated to reflect this data shortly, and the memo will be posted to the [Vision Zero SF website](#). Thank you to PHD’s Center for Data Science Branch for enabling DPH and the City & County of SF to apply data towards improving public health.

RECOGNIZING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BRANCH’S HAZARDOUS MATERIALS UNIT TEAM

Last month there was a house explosion that occurred in the Sunset District. The San Francisco Fire Department and Police Department responded to the incident and suspected that the explosion may have been caused by one or more hazardous materials and requested DPH’s assistance. The DPH Environmental Health Branch (EHB) maintains a group of very well-trained hazardous materials emergency responders who are available to respond to incidents like these on a 24/7 basis. Team members receive hundreds of hours of training and participate in multi-agency drills year-round. In addition, the EHB responders maintain and calibrate highly specialized analytical instruments on their emergency response vehicle. Jonathan Piakis, CIH, was our on-call responder for the incident and he was able to use a portable device to analyze and identify a variety of unknown materials at the incident. This information was critical in allowing the other emergency responders to understand the potential health risks of the materials and to make decisions about how to respond. In addition, Jonathan will be providing expert testimony at the criminal trial for this event. The valuable service this DPH team provides for the City dates back more than 30 years and was created in coordination with the San Francisco Fire Department. The Hazardous Materials Unit team rarely receives any publicity for the work they perform but they are a key component of any response to an emergency involving hazardous materials in San Francisco. They have our gratitude for ensuring the safety of



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both our City's first responders and residents.

COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 3/15:

- San Francisco's 7-day rolling average of new COVID cases per day is 73 and 85 people are hospitalized, including 10 in the ICU.
- Eighty-six percent of all SF residents have been vaccinated and 65% have received booster dose(s). Thirty-eight percent of residents have received a bivalent booster.

[DPH in the News](#)