



Karnes County

Health Service Region 8
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Public Health Services

Health and community education; immunizations for eligible children and adults; tuberculosis treatment and contact investigation; HIV and STD testing, treatment and education; communicable disease investigation; emergency preparedness and response; and general sanitation and food establishment inspections for the county.

Region 8 Activities

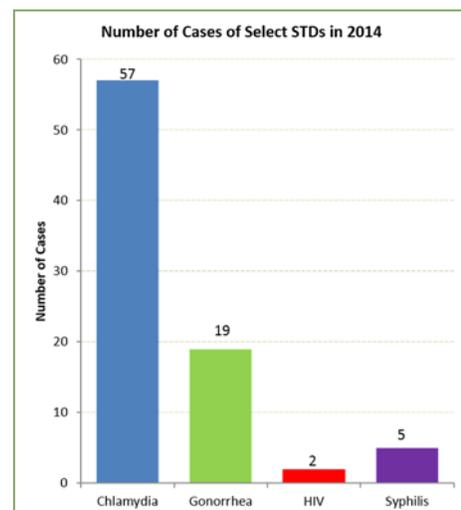
- Collaborate with area agencies to provide community health education to promote school and worksite wellness and safety
- Serve on the Southeast Child Fatality Review Team, the Local Emergency Planning Committee, the Kenedy/Karnes City/Runge ISD School Health Advisory Committee, the Karnes County Drug Free Coalition and the Karnes County Food Policy Council
- Support the Big Decisions abstinence plus sexuality curriculum at local schools
- Participate in the Annual Karnes County Child Abuse Prevention Event
- Serve as a resource to health care providers, school nurses and jail system staff regarding immunizations and infectious disease issues
- Assist with local Food Bank events in conjunction with the Karnes County Food Policy Council

Immunizations

- In 2014, the coverage rate for Texas for the recommended vaccination series dropped 8.5 points to 64%. Texas coverage rates are well below the national average of 71.6%. In the most recent data for Karnes County, the coverage rate is 58.8%.
- The percent of public school students with a conscientious exemption from immunizations filed at the school district level in Karnes County is 0.58%, up from 0.46% in 2010.

Snapshot of Communicable Disease Reports			
	2013	2014	2015
Amebiasis	0	1	0
Campylobacteriosis	4	1	0
Cryptosporidiosis	0	1	0
Hepatitis A, acute	0	1	0
Legionellosis	1	0	0
Lyme disease	0	1	0
Multi-drug Resistant Organism	*	1	0
Pertussis	4	1	0
Salmonellosis	10	7	3
Shigellosis	0	3	1
Tuberculosis	1	1	0
Typhus fever-fleaborne, murine	0	1	0
Varicella (Chickenpox)	1	3	25

*MDRO not reportable in 2013.



2015 Public Health by the Numbers

- 1 child received personal care services
- 1,312 children eligible for Texas Health Steps, a Medicaid program for children
- 38 general sanitation and restaurant inspections conducted
- 1 rabies quarantine facility inspected