

**CITY OF ENGLEWOOD**  
**BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING**

**May 9, 2018**

1. The regular meeting of the Board of Health, City of Englewood, Bergen County, was called to order at 8:01 p.m. by Bertha-Nora Acosta, President, Board of Health.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bertha-Nora Acosta, President; Dr. Aliza Solomon, Vice President; JoEllen Bostick; Daniel Daniel; Stephanie Davis; and Dr. Ketsia Sadler.

A quorum was present.

**ABSENT/with apology:**

Dr. Lisa Wisotsky.

**ALSO PRESENT:**

James Fedorko, Director, Health Services/Health Officer/Secretary to the Board; William C. Soukas, Esq., Board of Health Attorney; and Alisa M. Smith, Confidential Executive Secretary.

Mr. Fedorko read the Open Public Meetings Statement. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no members of the public present.

2A-D. Items for Approval

Motion to approve 2A. (Minutes of April, 2018-Open and Closed); 2B. Receipts-April 2018 (\$31,918.00); 2C. Bills-April 2018 (\$937.31); 2D. Employee Reports-April 2018

Motion to approve Items 2 A-D. was made by Ms. Davis, and seconded by Dr. Solomon. Motion was approved 6-0.

2E. Retail Licenses – April

Mr. Fedorko stated that there were 20 licenses to be approved. All of them are in compliance.

Motion to approve the April retail licenses was made by Mr. Daniel, and seconded by Ms. Davis. A roll call vote ensued:

ROLL CALL VOTE	
NAME	VOTE
BERTHA-NORA ACOSTA	YES
JOELLEN BOSTICK	YES
DANIEL DANIEL	YES
STEPHANIE DAVIS	YES
DR ALIZA SOLOMON	YES
DR LISA WISOTSKY	ABSENT
DR KETSIA SADLER	YES

Motion was approved 6-0.

3. Board Liaison Reports

Ms. Davis stated that she met the principle of Dwight Morrow High School, Dr. Billy Bowie, during the Walk into Spring program on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. During their conversation, Dr. Bowie suggested that the Health Department provide internships to Dwight Morrow students. Jim stated that they also discussed the growing transient and Korean student population in Englewood. Ms. Davis added that according to Dr. Bowie, there is a large number of transient students due to Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. In addition to them not staying at the school for very long, there is a language barrier due to some students not speaking English.

4. Committee Reports

Mr. Daniel informed the Board that Stigma Free Englewood had a Town Hall Meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup>. There were approximately 50 attendees total but the Board would like to have more members of the public attend in the future. The next task force meeting will be May 21<sup>st</sup> where they will discuss how the event went as well as improvements that can be made. Human Services of Fort Lee is also having a Stigma Free health fair on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Solomon felt that most of the credit for the Stigma Free Town Hall Meeting went to Englewood Hospital and Medical Center and that the Board of Health was not recognized for the work they did for the event. She stated that although the Board of Health is now responsible for it, Stigma Free began as a City Council initiative. She reminded the Board that in a previous meeting she voiced her concern that the Health Department was not publicizing their events and involvement in the community

enough, and that it could have a negative affect when the Council decides the department's budget next year.

Dr. Solomon suggested that the Board reevaluate their involvement in the Stigma Free program and that, moving forward, she wants Board members to get recognition for events they are involved with. Mr. Daniel countered by saying the Board members should not get recognition unless they play a more active role. He stated that mental health is a health and community issue so the Board needs to take initiative. He also remarked that the program went well and the speaker was great and graciously did the event for free.

Mr. Fedorko reminded the Board that Stigma Free is a Municipal Alliance program and that the Stigma Free task force had meetings where they decided the venue and Town Hall agenda, and could have voiced their concerns. He stated that working with an alliance can be hard, and that each entity involved in the alliance has to share both the responsibility and recognition. If the Board decides that they want each individual member listed, the result may be that all the organizations want the same. He reminded the Board that it is better to use soft power in this situation opposed to hard power.

Mr. Fedorko stated that while Englewood Hospital seemed to have a larger presence, the Board and Stigma Free task force should make sure the host of future events better directs the flow of the event so one entity does not monopolize time. He continued by saying that the Board members attending the next Stigma Free meeting need to vocalize what they were unhappy about so improvements can be made. Mr. Daniel expressed that he does not care about recognition as long as the community is aware of the Stigma Free initiative. Dr. Solomon and Mr. Fedorko agreed with him about the importance of having quality programming but also stated that the Board has make sure the Health Department's community involvement is publicized to illustrate why Englewood having its own health department is necessary. Ms. Davis suggested having a Board member speak during events as a way to show involvement but not take over the event.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

5. R18-09 Approval of Attorney Fees - Smoke, Inc. v. City of Englewood Board of Health

WHEREAS the Board of Health of the City of Englewood has been named as a defendant in a civil action filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey entitled Smoke, Inc. v. City of Englewood Board of Health, bearing docket number BER-L-2942-16;

WHEREAS the Board of Health is being defended in the lawsuit by Board Attorney William C. Soukas of the law firm Nowell, P.A.; and

WHEREAS, Nowell, P.A. has submitted an invoice (Statement No. 288766) to the Board of Health for legal fees, costs and expenses incurred in connection with the litigation for the period March 23, 2018 through April 30, 2018 in the sum of \$2628.98, which amount the Board finds to be reasonable and customary;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of the City of Englewood that payment of the aforementioned invoice of Nowell, P.A., for legal services rendered and associated costs and expenses be and hereby is approved.

Motion to approve Resolution R18-09 was made by Dr. Solomon, and seconded by Mr. Daniel. A roll call vote ensued:

ROLL CALL VOTE	
NAME	VOTE
BERTHA-NORA ACOSTA	YES
JOELLEN BOSTICK	YES
DANIEL DANIEL	YES
STEPHANIE DAVIS	YES
DR ALIZA SOLOMON	YES
DR LISA WISOTSKY	ABSENT
DR KETSIA SADLER	YES

Motion was approved 6-0.

6. R18-10 Interlocal Vaccine Storage Agreement

WHEREAS, the respective health departments for the City of Englewood and the City of Hackensack each maintain appropriate refrigeration and freezing equipment to properly maintain vaccines and are required to have in place emergency protocols and procedures requiring alternative sites for vaccine storage; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq. permits local units of New Jersey to contract with each other for the provision of services which each party is empowered to provide within its own jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hackensack has approved a proposed form of Agreement with the City of Englewood Board of Health under which each city's health departments shall make vaccine storage

available to the other in case of emergencies, in the form annexed hereto, which the Director/Health Officer recommends is in the best interest of the Board of Health; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the aforementioned Agreement with the City of Hackensack be and hereby is ratified and approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Board of Health be and hereby is authorized to execute the aforementioned Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director/Health Officer be and hereby is authorized to take such lawful measures as may be required to implement the terms of this Resolution.

Motion to approve Resolution R18-10 was made by Ms. Bostick, and seconded by Ms. Davis. A roll call vote ensued:

ROLL CALL VOTE	
NAME	VOTE
BERTHA-NORA ACOSTA	YES
JOELLEN BOSTICK	YES
DANIEL DANIEL	YES
STEPHANIE DAVIS	YES
DR ALIZA SOLOMON	YES
DR LISA WISOTSKY	ABSENT
DR KETSIA SADLER	YES

Motion was approved 6-0.

7. R18-11 Interlocal Temporary Health Officer Agreement

WHEREAS, the City of Englewood and the City of Hackensack each maintains their own respective health departments, each of which is administered by its own full time Health Officer in compliance with NJAC 8:52 et seq., "Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health in New Jersey"; and

WHEREAS, in the event that the health officer for either Englewood or Hackensack is not available for an extended period due to illness or use of leave time, it would be desirable for the health officer from the neighboring jurisdiction to be available to provide interim health officer coverage; and

WHEREAS, the "Uniform Shared Services And Consolidation Act," N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq. permits local units of New Jersey to enter into contracts with each other for the provision of services which any party to the agreement is empowered to provide within its own jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hackensack has approved an Agreement for the Use of Temporary Health Officer in Cases of Extended Leave Time or Illness in the form annexed hereto which the Director/Health Officer has recommended is in the best interest of the Englewood Department of Health;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the aforementioned Agreement with the City of Hackensack be and hereby is ratified and approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Board of Health be and hereby authorized to execute the aforementioned Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director/Health Officer be and hereby is authorized to take such lawful measures as may be required to implement the terms of this Resolution.

Motion to approve Resolution R18-11 was made by Mr. Daniel, and seconded by Dr. Solomon. A roll call vote ensued:

ROLL CALL VOTE	
NAME	VOTE
BERTHA-NORA ACOSTA	YES
JOELLEN BOSTICK	YES
DANIEL DANIEL	YES
STEPHANIE DAVIS	YES
DR ALIZA SOLOMON	YES
DR LISA WISOTSKY	ABSENT
DR KETSIA SADLER	YES

Motion was approved 6-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

8. Pedestrian Use of Cell Phones in Crosswalks

Mr. Soukas reminded the Board that Montclair, California and Honolulu, Hawaii approved ordinances prohibiting pedestrians from crossing the street while looking at a mobile device. Montclair’s ordinance also prohibits crossing the street while engaged in a phone call or having headphones or a headset covering both ears. Exemptions include 911 phone calls and first responders. Honolulu’s penalties start at \$15-35 for the first offense and goes up to \$100 for the third offense within a 12-month period. Montclair’s is \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second, and \$500 for the third and subsequent offenses within a 12-month period. Ms. Davis inquired about how the ordinances are enforced. Mr. Soukas explained that he believes police are responsible for enforcement since neither ordinances mentioned citizen enforcement. The Board will review the ordinances and revisit this issue during the June meeting. If the Board decides this matter poses a public health issue and want to pursue this topic, they can prepare a Resolution to present to the City Council.

9. Youth Health Educator Position

Mr. Fedorko stated that there are two top candidates for the position and the hiring decision will be made tomorrow. He and Ms. Smith will send thank you letters to the other candidates once the person offered the job accepts the position. There were 40 applicants to the position.

10. Prescription Drug Compliance Program

Mr. Fedorko stated that 11 residents from 111 West Street residence attended the program and that, overall, the program went well. He is interested in repeating the program but is concerned about getting a captive audience to attend at another location. Pictures from the event were posted on Facebook. Mr. Fedorko said that the Department will continue posting pictures on social media from future events and Ms. Smith will help with this initiative.

11. Blood Drive

Mr. Fedorko decided that the Health Department is going to work with the Community Blood Bank for this year's blood drive. Instead of requiring a minimum of 30 people to preregister, like the American Red Cross, the Community Blood Bank only requires 10-15 people, and the blood donated stays local.

12. Diabetes Self-Management Program (Spanish & English)

The English Diabetes Self-Management class is currently taking place and has eight participants that attend regularly. The dates for the Spanish program are not finalized but it will take place at the Family Success Center in June or July. Mr. Fedorko recounted having little to no people enroll in the previous two Spanish only classes. He then stated that the Health Educator suggested that providing food and childcare, as well as changing the class time to the evening, may increase the turnout. Mr. Fedorko will work with the Family Success Center to see if those changes can be made.

NEW BUSINESS

13. Walk into Spring

Mr. Fedorko stated that there are 110 people signed up, and the program averages 31 walkers per day.

14. State of Health in Englewood Address

Mr. Fedorko gave a presentation about the leading reportable diseases, the 2017-2018 influenza season, and vital records data in the City of Englewood. The leading reportable diseases from 2015-2017 were hepatitis C, Lyme disease, and food borne illnesses which is an umbrella term for several food-related diseases listed on the attached PowerPoint. He noted that the County health department records STIs, not the individual towns. Once a person is diagnosed with any other communicable disease, the information is logged in the Communicable Disease Reporting Surveillance System (CDRSS) and tracked by the town's health department. Hepatitis C cases typically consist of baby boomers, people who received blood transfusions before 1992, and intravenous drug users.

Dr. Solomon remarked that the number of hepatitis C cases is going to decrease next year due to a new medication that cures the disease. Mr. Fedorko stated that influenza and pneumonia were the top reported diseases in Englewood from 2015-2017. He stated that despite the higher hospital admission rate for influenza-like illnesses and increased media coverage, the 2017 flu season was average. He also presented information about the number of birth and death certificates issued. He explained that in 2011, it was cheaper to purchase a certified certificate from the State. Once the Englewood Health Department lowered the price of birth and death certificates in October 2011, there was an increase in



requests. He explained that since the price has stayed the same and the birth rate did not increase since the initial price change, he believes the election of Donald Trump may have played a role in the spike of birth certificates issued in 2016. (Slides attached)

15. Other Business

Mr. Fedorko stated that in early April, there was one confirmed case and one suspected case of measles which occurred in the same apartment building in Englewood. If the suspected case is confirmed, the NJ Department of Health will issue a press release with the building's address. Mr. Fedorko stated that people are able to get the MMR (measles, mumps, & rubella) vaccine starting at 12 months old and it's a two shot series. Dr. Solomon suggested that anyone that has had close contact should get his or her immunity checked because immunity is not guaranteed, especially after a number of years. Ms. Davis asked if the anti-vaccination movement is still prevalent. Ms. Bostick stated that she noticed many of the special needs children she works with have not been vaccinated. Dr. Solomon replied that people still believe there is a link between vaccines and autism despite multiple scientific studies disproving the paper that introduced that idea.

Mr. Fedorko said that the department plans to have a vaccine campaign if the second case is confirmed. The department will work with Walgreens and CVS to administer the MMR vaccine to the residents. The vaccine is now available at CVS, and it is \$69 without insurance. Ms. Davis inquired if the health department staff and other City employees are tested for immunity. Mr. Fedorko stated that it is currently not a requirement but he will consider it. Ms. Davis remarked that she had measles, mumps and rubella when she was growing up but people today do not realize how important vaccines are because they no longer see the effects of those diseases.

The Board discussed the fox population in Englewood. Dr. Solomon stated that residents are not allowed to capture foxes unless they have somewhere to release them. Mr. Fedorko stated that there was a young, sick raccoon on Green Street in the same wooded area the foxes are being spotted. The Health Department is now checking to see if it has rabies. Since Flat Rock Brook has done fox informational sessions in the past, Dr. Solomon suggested having them do another. Ms. Bostick suggested also having information put in the next *My Englewood* publication. Dr. Solomon recounted the previous conversation about how the number of Lyme disease cases is low in Englewood and attributed it to residents maintaining their properties. She stated that she thinks the City is responsible for maintaining the grassy areas around the tennis court and walkways by route 4. Those areas are unkempt and have a lot of high grass where deer roam. Mr. Fedorko will look into the issue.

Mr. Daniel explained that construction workers have been leaving out garbage on two or three properties on Cambridge Avenue and that the dumpster they are using is almost overflowing. This has been going on for the past few months. Mr. Fedorko said that the department will investigate.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no members of the public present.  
(Closed Session)

16. Litigation – Sofia’s Restaurant

17. Litigation – La Mezza

(Open Session)

**ADJOURN**

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There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Solomon and seconded by Dr. Sadler. All members present voted "Aye," in favor. Motion was approved 6-0.

The meeting officially adjourned at 9:21p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James Fedorko

*James Fedorko*

Secretary to the Board

/as

**2017 Annual Report on the State of  
the Englewood Community's Health**

**by James Fedorko  
Health Officer**

# State of the Englewood Health Department 2017

1. Leading Reportable Diseases in Englewood
  - 1a. Data pertaining to hepatitis C
  - 1b. Data pertaining to Lyme disease
  - 1c. Composition of food borne illnesses
2. 2017-2018 Influenza Season
  - 2a. Influenza-like illness emergency room visits/admissions
  - 2b. Influenza pediatric mortality
  - 3c. Influenza cases in Englewood
3. Vital Records Data in Englewood
  - 3a. Births filed and issued
  - 3b. Deaths filed and issued

# Leading Reportable Diseases in Englewood

## 2017

- #1 Influenza (277)
- #2 Food Borne Illness (23)
- #3 Hepatitis C (17)
- #4 Lyme Disease (15)
- #5 Hepatitis B (6)

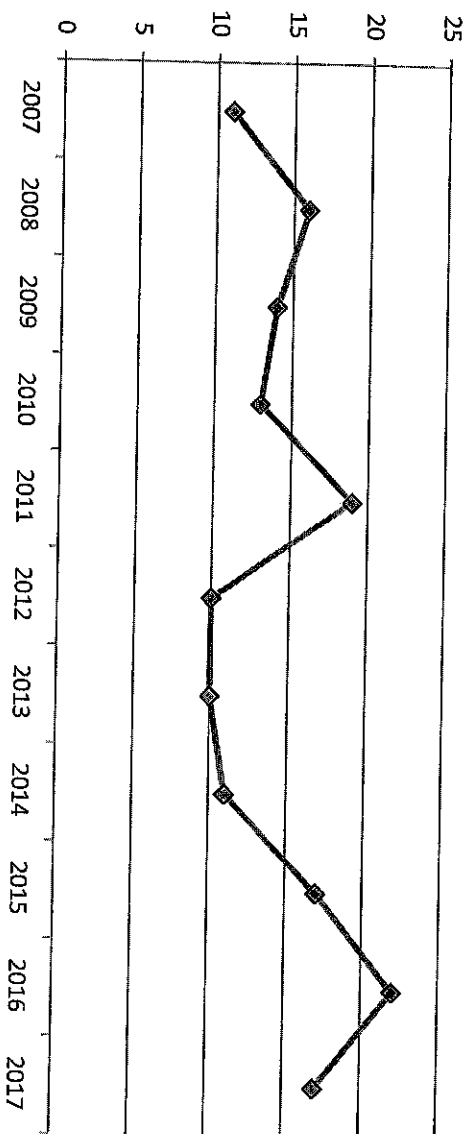
## 2016

- #1 Influenza (213)
- #2 Hepatitis C (22)
- #3 Lyme Disease (15)
- #4 Food Borne Illness (10)
- #5 Hepatitis B (8)

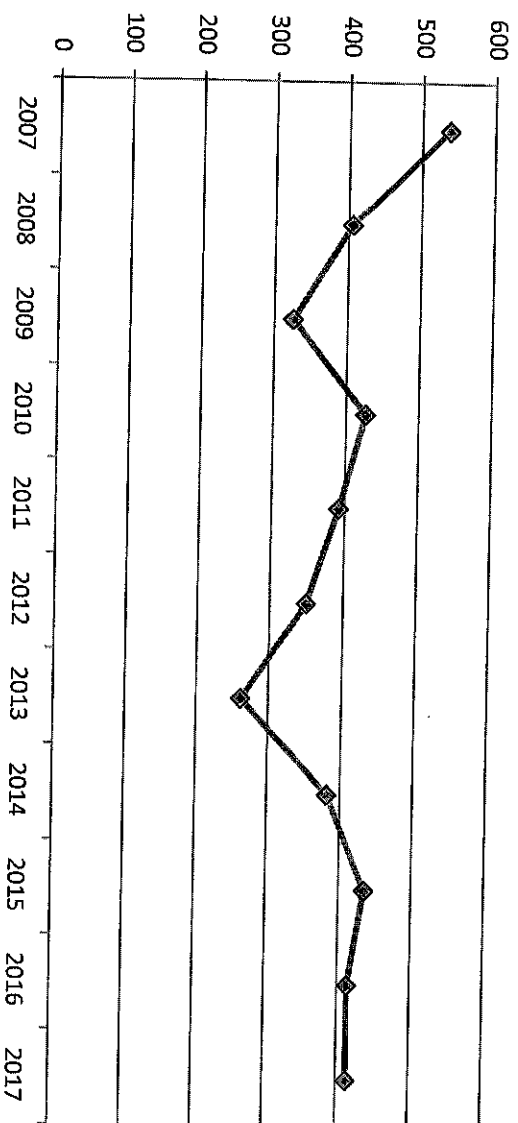
## 2015

- #1 Influenza (132)
- #2 Food Borne Illness (17)
- #2 Hepatitis C (17)
- #2 Hepatitis B (17)
- #3 Lyme Disease (6)

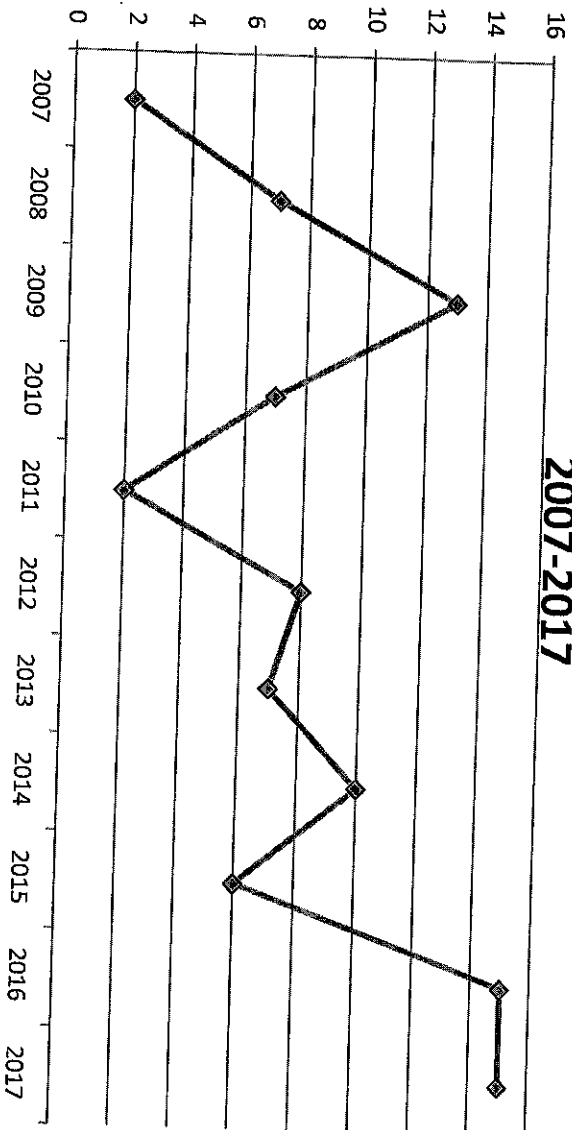
### Cases of Hepatitis C in Englewood 2007-2017



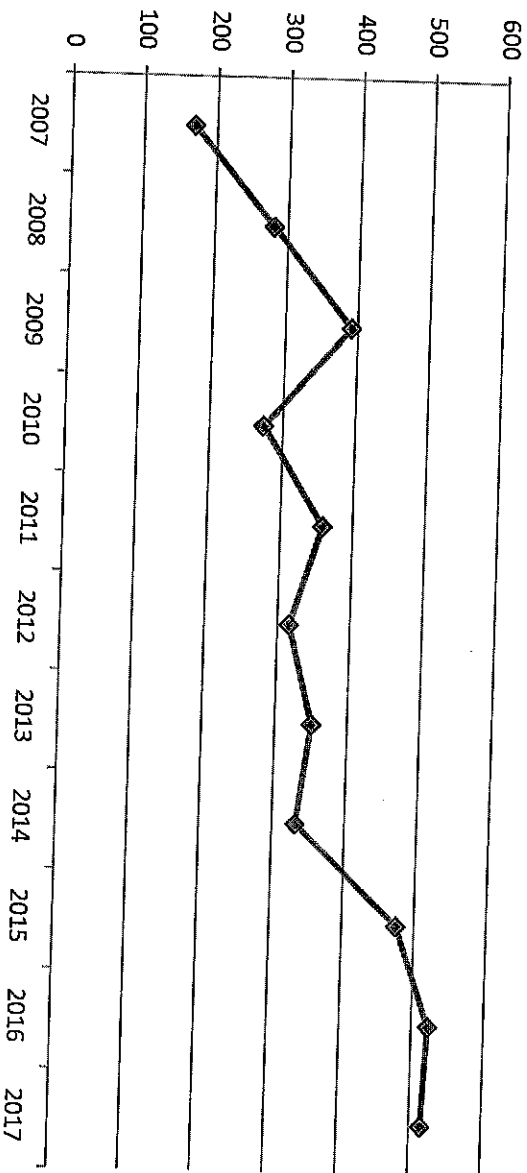
### Cases of Hepatitis C in Bergen County 2007-2017



**Cases of Lyme Disease in Englewood  
2007-2017**



**Cases of Lyme Disease in Bergen County  
2007-2017**



# Food Borne Illnesses

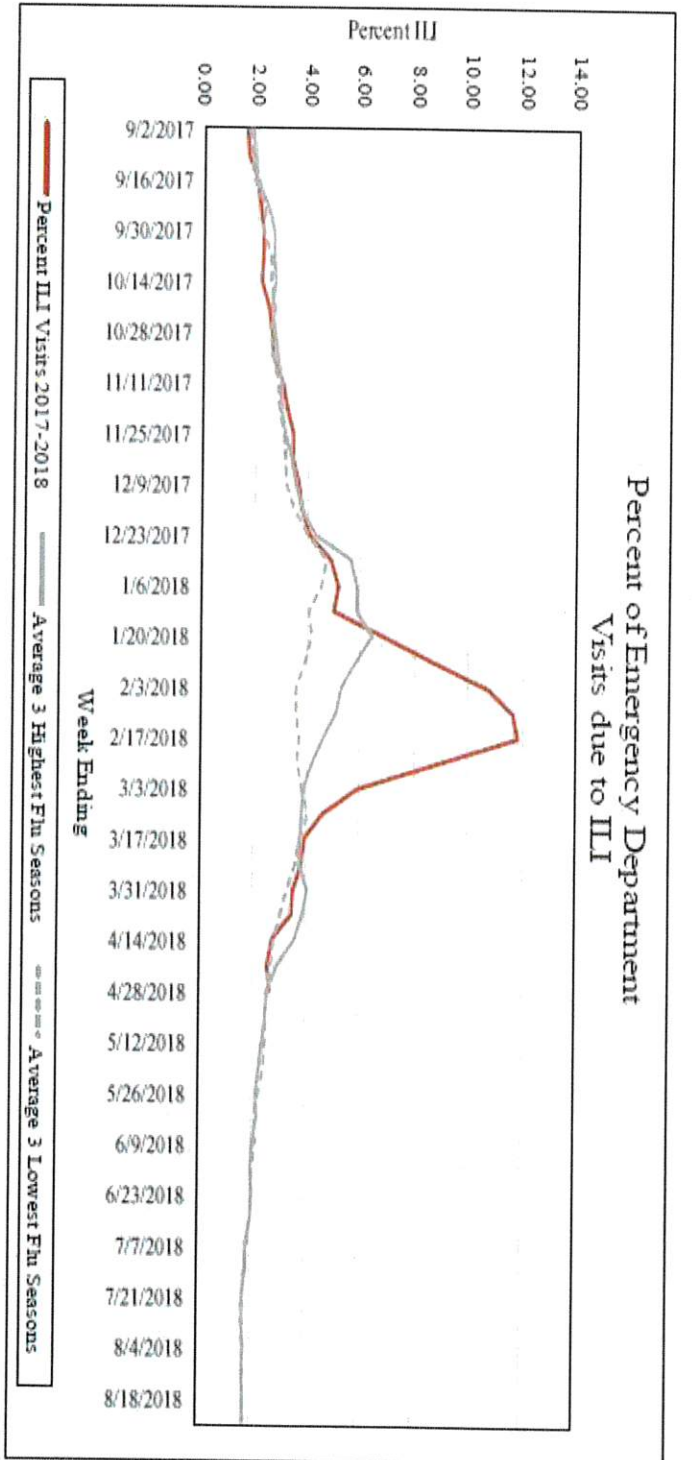
- Salmonellosis
- Campylobacteriosis
- Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*
- Cryptosporidiosis
- Cyclosporiasis
- Yersiniosis
- *Vibrio* infections



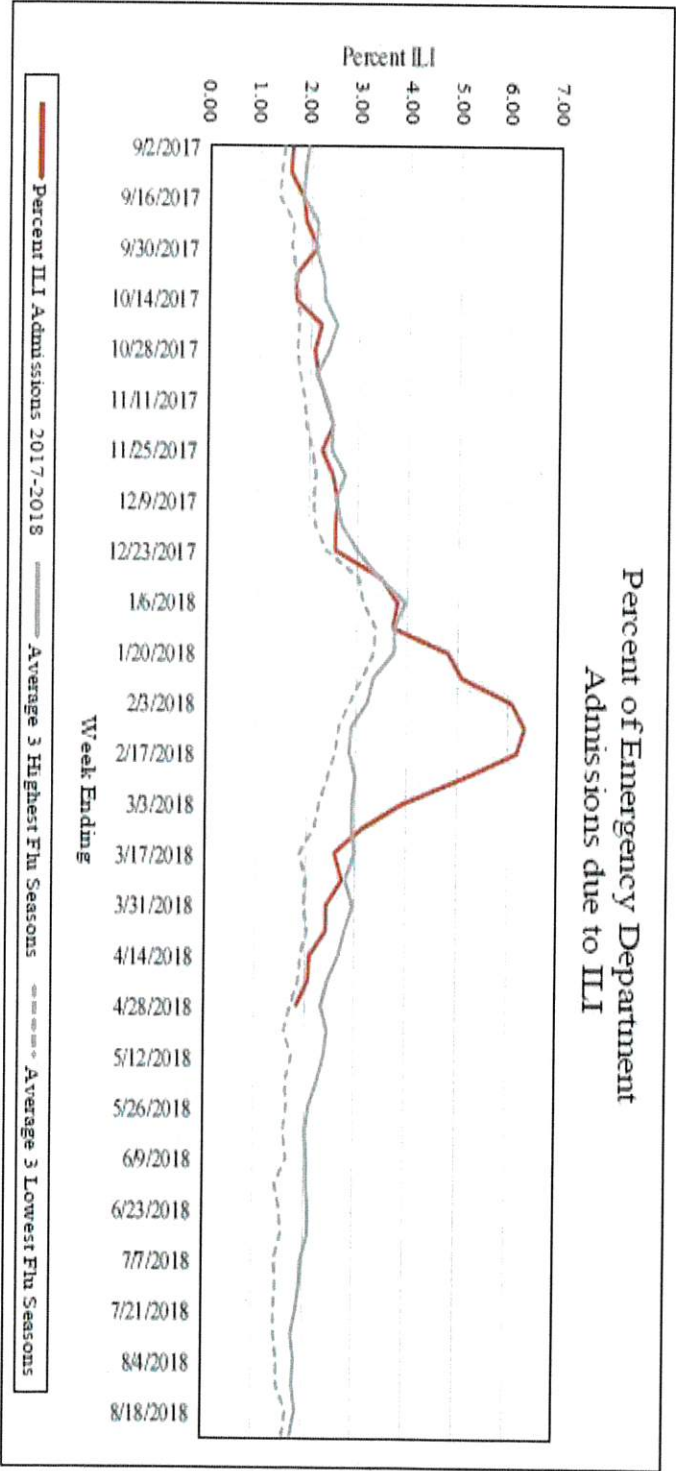
# Influenza & Pneumonia Deaths in Englewood

- 2017. Cases of influenza (277), Deaths (12)
- 2016. Cases of influenza (213), Deaths (16)
- 2015. Cases of influenza (132), Deaths (7)

## Emergency Department<sup>9</sup> Visits Percent due to ILI



## Emergency Department<sup>9</sup> Percent of Admissions due to ILI



## Pediatric Influenza Mortality II

Influenza Season	US (fatal)	NJ (severe)	NJ (fatal)
2012-2013	171	89	7
2013-2014	108	54	6
2014-2015	146	33	1
2015-2016	85	47	1
2016-2017	109	39	0
2017-2018	160	55	3

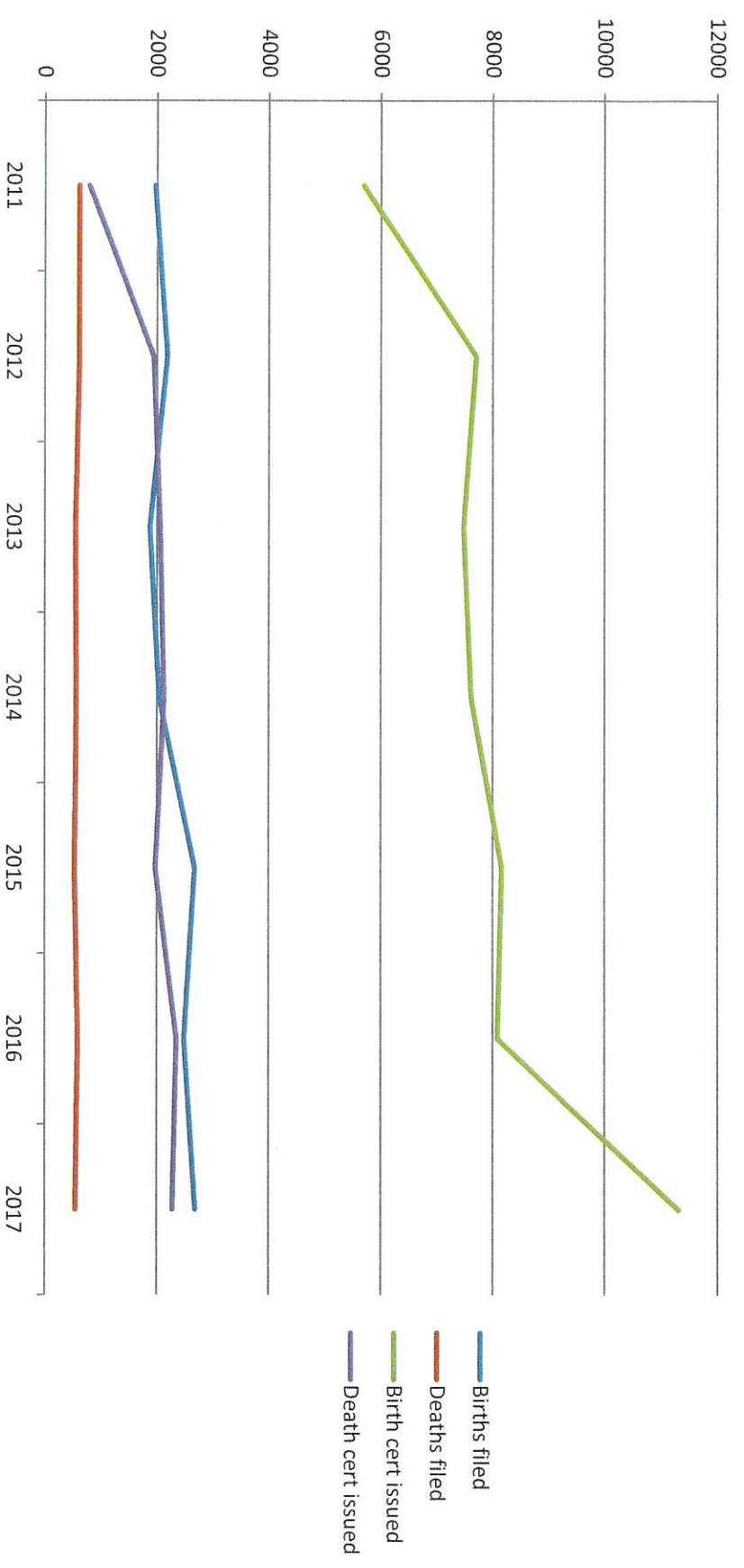
Six year average =

130

53

3

# Birth and Death Certificates Filed and Issued 2011-2017



# Discussion