THE MOBILE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 1981

ANNUAL REPORT
1981

MOBILE COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

248 Cox Street
P.O. Box 2867
Mobile, Alabama 36652

Mobile County Health Department

P.O. BOX 2867 MOBILE, ALABAMA 36652 (205) 690-8158

Alfred R. Stumpe, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer

L. Gerald Lightsey, Dr.P.H.
Assistant Health Officer

BOARD OF HEALTH
Sidney J. Gray, Jr., M.D., Chairman
Robert S. Harlin, M.D.
M. Preston Daugherty, Jr., M.D.
C. Ivey Williamson, M.D.
Francis W. Sullivan, M.D.
Dan Wiley, Pres., County Commission

It is with pleasure that we submit this Annual Report to you. This report reflects public health's impact on the well-being of the residents of Mobile County during 1981.

We hope you will continue to support our programs as we strive for further improvements in the services we render to the citizens of Mobile County.

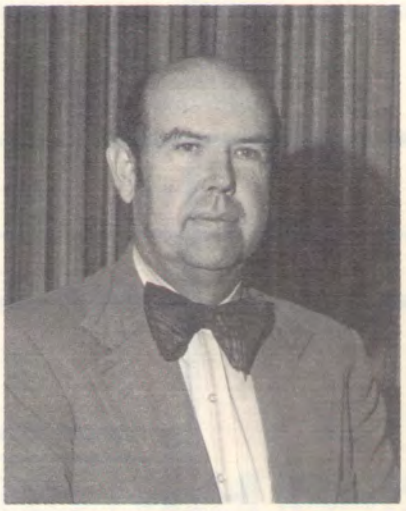
Alfred R. Stumpe, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer

David M. Mullins, M.D.
Chairman, 1981

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

BOARD OF HEALTH

David M. Mullins, M.D.
Chairman



Sidney J. Gray, Jr., M.D.

Robert S. Harlin, M.D.

M. Preston Daugherty, Jr., M.D.

C. Ivey Williamson, M.D.

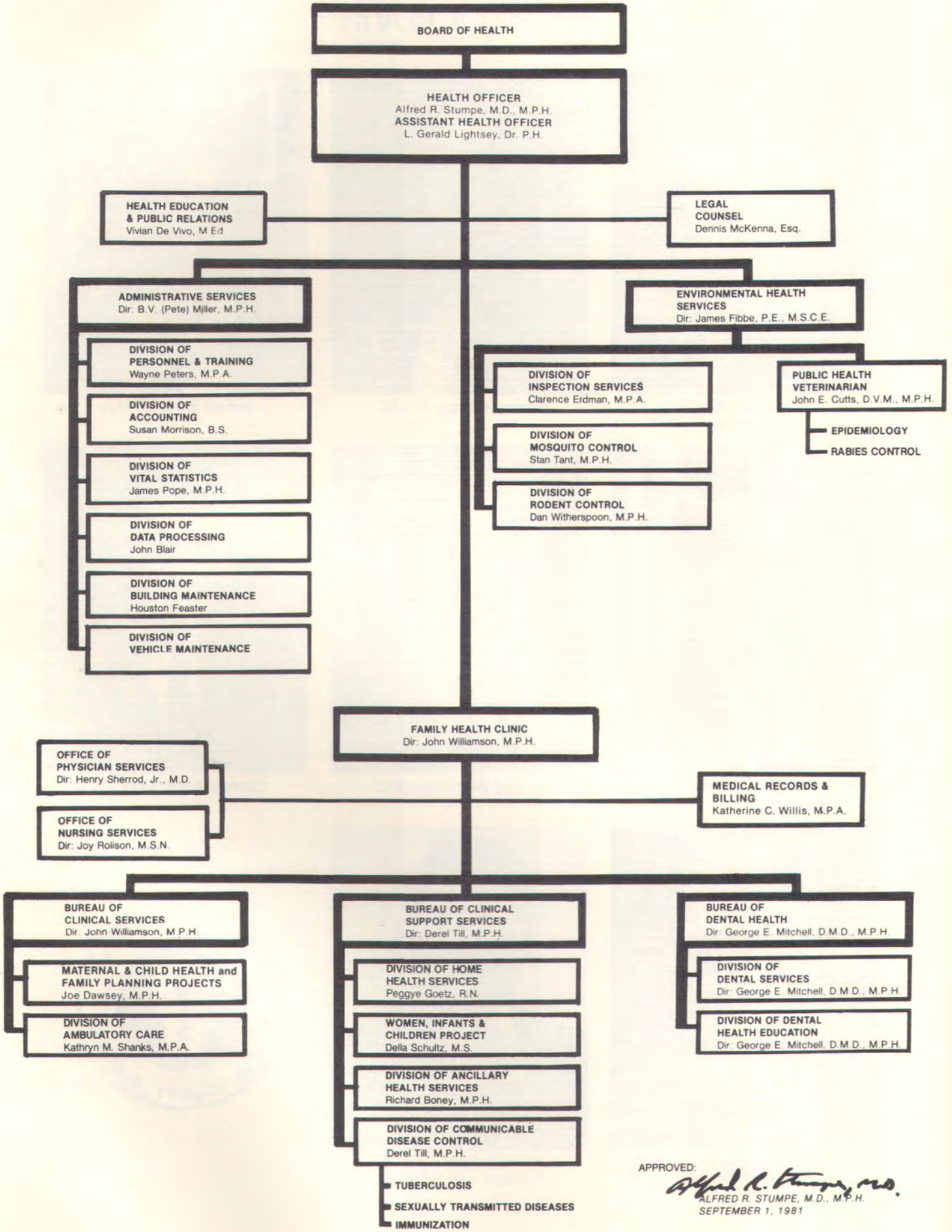
Commissioner Dan Wiley

Alfred R. Stumpe, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer

L. Gerald Lightsey, Dr. P.H.
Assistant Health Officer

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA

MOBILE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



APPROVED:

Alfred R. Stumpe, M.D.

ALFRED R. STUMPE, M.D., M.P.H.
SEPTEMBER 1, 1981

1981 HIGHLIGHTS

- Provisional figures reveal the infant mortality rate for Mobile County declined to 10.6 per 1,000 live births, a 33% reduction from the 1980 rate of 15.4 per 1,000 live births.
- Vector control programs and the motor pool relocated into new, modern facilities on Congress Street, adjacent to the Frank S. Keeler Memorial Building.
- Community advisement on flooding, food contamination, sewage and inspection of all food establishments were conducted immediately following the May flood in the City of Mobile.
- New tuberculosis cases decreased from 76 in 1980 (23.7 per 100,000 population) to 65 in 1981 (17.4 per 100,000 population). The open case register for tuberculosis in Mobile County reported 94 cases of tuberculosis under medical supervision, the lowest overall caseload since official records have been kept.
- A 17% decrease of primary and secondary syphilis occurred with 172 cases reported in 1981 compared to 208 in 1980.
- For the second consecutive year there were no reported cases of measles (rubeola) or German measles (rubella) in Mobile County.

MOBILE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

David M. Mullins, M.D. Chairman	December, 1981
Sidney J. Gray, Jr., M.D.	December, 1982
Robert S. Harlin, M.D.	December, 1983
M. Preston Daugherty, Jr., M.D.	December, 1984
C. Ivey Williamson, M.D.	December, 1985
Honorable Dan Wiley	Pres., Mobile County Commission

LIAISON MEMBERS

Joseph W. Gunter, Jr., D.M.D.
Glenn M. Yelverton, D.D.S.
David de Gruy, R.Ph.
John Finley, R.Ph.
Clarke Yarbrough, D.V.M.

STAFF

Alfred R. Stumpe, M.D., M.P.H.	Health Officer
L. Gerald Lightsey, Dr.P.H.	Assistant Health Officer
Brasher V. Miller, M.P.H.	Administrative Services
James E. Fibbe, P.E., M.S.C.E.	Environmental Health Services
John R. Williamson, M.P.H.	Family Health Clinic
John R. Williamson, M.P.H.	Bureau of Clinical Services
Derel G. Till, M.P.H.	Bureau of Clinical Support Services
George E. Mitchell, D.M.D., M.P.H.	Bureau of Dental Health

SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS
FISCAL YEAR 1980-1981
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1981

SOURCE OF FUNDS:

Appropriations:

Local Governments		
County of Mobile	$ 350,000	
City of Mobile	400,000	
Other Municipalities	62,080	
State of Alabama	403,217	
Other Appropriations	40,221	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS:		**$1,255,518**

Grants:

*Family Planning (7/1-6/30)	$ 349,264	
*Family Health Clinic (6/1-5/31)	399,160	
Maternity and Infant Care (MIC)	608,042	
*Rodent Control (6/1-5/31)	118,000	
Special Dental	50,000	
Women Infants & Children (WIC)	231,917	
TOTAL GRANTS:		**$1,756,383**
AD VALOREM TAXES:		**$ 682,720**

Other Funds Received:

Federal, State and Other Projects (Reimbursements)	$ 606,203	
Oil and Gas Severance Taxes	1,230,281	
Local Fees, Permits, Miscellaneous	382,417	
Medicaid/Medicare	149,337	
School Health	28,799	
Local Rentals	56,143	
Local Refunds and Interest	32,664	
Ad Valorem Interest	22,920	
Transfers In	20,000	
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:		**$2,528,764**
TOTAL REVENUE FOR YEAR:		**$6,223,385**

APPLICATION OF FUNDS:

	Local	Vector	Federal	Total
Personnel Costs	$2,169,213	$344,273	$1,020,081	$3,533,567
Contractual Services	150,250	16,346	289,526	456,122
Travel	41,715	2,008	6,476	50,199
Equipment	43,666	15,139	2,106	60,911
Supplies & Other	413,142	161,759	172,880	747,781
Indirect Cost	—0—	120,151	265,314	385,465
Capital Expense	12,081	97,991	—0—	110,072
Transfers Out	724,661	—0—	—0—	724,661
TOTALS	**$3,554,728**	**$757,667**	**$1,756,383**	**$6,068,778**

*Grant Year Ending in Local Fiscal Year

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Brasher V. Miller, M.P.H.
Director

Administrative Services consists of the following divisions: Personnel and Training, Accounting, Vital Statistics, Data Processing, Building Maintenance, and Vehicle Maintenance.

The Division of Vehicle Maintenance relocated into a new and spacious facility adjacent to the Keeler Building during the year.

DIVISION OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING

The 1980-81 fiscal year ended September 30, 1981 with 215 employees on payroll with an annual payroll including fringe benefits of $3,508,688. The number of employees represents a personnel reduction from 254 one year ago. Due to reductions in federal funding, four (4) employees were laid off in August, 1981. A total of 94 others terminated their employment for various reasons, resulting in an annual turnover rate of 27.6% as compared to 20.5 in 1980. Due to CETA (Comprehensive Education Training Act) funding reductions, the Health Department lost 24 CETA employees assigned to vector control and clinical programs in April 1981.

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTING

Annual revenue for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1981, from local funds amounted to a total of $3,741,362.

Sources of local revenues were as follows: Mobile County - $350,000; City of Mobile - $400,000; Other Municipalities - $62,080; State of Alabama - $403,217; Other Appropriations - $40,221; Federal, State and Other Projects (reimbursements) - $606,203; Oil and Gas Severance Taxes - $1,230,281; Local Fees, Permits, Miscellaneous - $382,417; Medicaid/Medicare - $149,337; School Health - $28,799; Local Rentals - $56,143; Local Refunds and Interest - $32,664.

In addition, aggregate project funds amounting to $1,756,383 were received during the fiscal year from federal agencies to operate federal projects as well as $682,720 received from ad valorem tax receipts. Money earned on ad valorem tax receipts totalled $22,920.

As a result of state audit reports, new accounting procedures were implemented to gain better control and accountability. Revisions made included an improved computerized system utilizing three digit reporting as opposed to six digit; use of a journal ledger system rather than a cash book; better documentation on purchase orders; and changes in terminology.

DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS

Among the primary responsibilities for the Division of Vital Statistics was the compilation of a monthly report indicating types of services provided by jurisdiction; collection of vital records (births, deaths, and fetal deaths) for Mobile County; and collection of miscellaneous fees for services provided by the Health Department.

The division recorded 11,204 vital events in Mobile County during 1981: 7,749 live births, 3,345 deaths, and 110 fetal deaths.* The provisional figures show 6,819 resident births for an annual birth rate of 18.4 per 1,000 population, a slight decline from 19.0 in 1980. Of these births 1,326 (19.4%) were to teen mothers as compared to 1,393 (20%) in 1980 and 1,461 (21%) in 1979.

There were 2,784 resident deaths in 1981 for an annual death rate of 7.5 per 1,000 population*. Infant deaths totalled 73 for an

infant death rate of 10.6 per 1,000 live births. This rate is 31% lower than the infant death rate for 1980 (15.4 per 1,000 live births). One maternal death was reported for Mobile County in 1981, that of a Mobile resident who died suddenly while visiting in nearby Conecuh County.

Heart disease continued to be the number one cause of death accounting for 933 (32.7%) of total resident deaths, cancer accounted for 626 (22%), stroke 177 (6.2%), and accidents 131 (4.6%). Death rates for homicide and suicide declined in 1981.

The issuance of certified copies of vital records upon request totalled 13,878 birth records and 16,327 death records for 1981. A total of 1,694 verification cards were issued in 1981 to those whose birth occurred prior to 1952 since the Health Department does not file birth certificates prior to that date.

*Provisional data as of March 29, 1982.

TABLE I
SUMMARY OF VITAL EVENTS
RESIDENTS OF
MOBILE COUNTY; ALABAMA; UNITED STATES
1980-1981

EVENT	Mobile County				Alabama		United States	
	1981*		1980		1980		1980*	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Births	6,819	18.4	6,938	19.0	63,405	16.3	3,598,000	16.2
Deaths	2,849	7.7	3,118	8.5	35,305	9.0	1,986,000	8.9
Infant Deaths	72	10.6	107	15.4	960	15.1	45,000	12.5
Neonatal Deaths	50	7.3	63	9.1	623	9.8	30,200	8.4
Perinatal Deaths	102	14.8	109	15.6	988	15.5	NA	NA
Fetal Deaths	92	13.5	69	9.9	723	11.4	NA	NA
Maternal Deaths	1	1.5	1,11	0.0	8	1.3	250	0.7

*Provisional data as of March 29, 1982

Rates: Births and deaths per 1,000 population.
Infant, neonatal and fetal deaths per 1,000 live births.
Perinatal deaths per 1,000 deliveries.
Maternal deaths per 10,000 live births.

Definitions: Infant Deaths - Deaths to infants under 1 year of age.
Neonatal deaths - Deaths to infants under 28 days of age.
Perinatal Deaths - Deaths to fetuses over 28 weeks gestation and infants under 7 days of age.
Fetal Deaths - Deaths to fetuses after 20 weeks or more gestation.

TABLE II
LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH
RESIDENTS OF
MOBILE COUNTY; ALABAMA; UNITED STATES
1980-1981

CAUSE OF DEATH	Mobile County				Alabama		United States	
	1981*		1980		1980		1980*	
	Number	Rate**	Number	Rate**	Number	Rate**	Number	Rate**
Diseases of the Heart (390-398) (402) (404-429)	933	252.5	993	271.6	11,807	302.6	763,060	343.0
Malignant Neoplasms (140-208)	626	169.1	697	190.7	7,024	180.0	414,320	186.3
Cerebrovascular Diseases (430-438)	177	47.8	220	60.2	3,465	88.8	170,420	76.6
Accidents (E800-E949)	131	35.4	217	59.4	2,295	58.8	106,550	47.9
Diseases of Arteries (440-448)	122	32.9	89	24.3	726	18.6	49,070	22.0
Diabetes Mellitus (250)	93	25.1	70	19.1	664	17.0	34,230	15.4
Homicide (E960-E978)	86	23.2	92	25.2	614	15.7	25,090	11.3
Influenza and Pneumonia (480-487)	44	11.9	52	14.2	757	19.4	52,720	23.7
Cirrhosis of Liver (571)	42	11.3	44	12.0	364	9.3	31,330	14.1
Suicide (E950-E959)	44	11.9	47	12.9	444	11.4	28,290	12.7
Certain Causes in Early Infancy (760-779)	39	10.5	53	14.5	484	12.4	22,570	10.1
Bronchitis, Emphysema and Asthma (490-493)	28	7.6	23	6.3	289	7.4	20,570	9.3
All Other Causes	482	130.2	521	142.5	6,372	163.3	267,780	120.4
TOTAL	2,849	769.5	3,118	852.9	35,305	905.0	1,986,000	892.6

*Provisional data as of March 29, 1982.

**Rate per 100,000 population.

DIVISION OF DATA PROCESSING

The Division of Data Processing is responsible for all data processing functions at the Health Department. These functions cover data processing, data entry, computing, programming, and systems analysis. The division provided service to other divisions upon request as needed for efficient program operations. A total of 42 new programs were written in 1981.

The peripheral equipment used to accomplish the data processing functions is as follows: one (1) IBM 3780 Terminal, two (2) 129 data recorders, one (1) 029 keypunch, one (1) 082 sorter, three (3) Rixon data modems, one (1) 3271 control unit, and one (1) 3277 cathode ray tube. All peripheral equipment is located in the Newburn Building, Mobile County Health Department. The central computer is an IBM 4341 located at the University of South Alabama. All data transmission and receiving originates and concludes at the data processing site in the Newburn Building.

On-line processing capabilities were attained in 1981. Installation of the 3271 control unit and 3277 cathode ray tube provided the on-line processing of source and execution card decks.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

James E. Fibbe, P.E., M.S.C.E.
Director

Environmental Health Services is responsible for all environmental programs of the Mobile County Health Department through its Divisions of Inspection Services, Mosquito Control, and Rodent Control. During the year, the Bureau of Community Health Services was abolished. The Office of Public Health Veterinarian was established with responsibilities for Rabies Control and Epidemiology as well as consultation services for the Divisions of Mosquito Control and Rodent Control. The Mobile County Rabies Inspector identified one positive case of animal rabies in 1981 (an insectivorous bat).

DIVISION OF INSPECTION SERVICES

The Division of General Sanitation was integrated into the Division of Inspection Services during the year. The Division of Inspection Services is responsible for maintaining adequate levels of food, milk, and general sanitation within Mobile County. In fulfilling these duties, division personnel perform routine field inspections of food service and milk production establishments; motels; mobile home parks; detention facilities; schools; and swimming pools. The inspection of private water supplies, and septic tank and plumbing installations has also been incorporated into the division's activities. Division personnel also investigate health nuisance complaints received from the public.

Food and milk sanitation services provided:	
Food establishment inspections	11,224
Foodhandler classes conducted	126
Foodhandler permits issued	10,036
School cafeteria inspections	1,114
Frozen dessert samples collected	1,323
Milk samples collected	963
Milk plant inspections	89
Producer dairy inspections	195
Facility sanitation services provided:	
Motel and hotel inspections	182
Mobile home park inspections	263
Detention facility inspections	122
Swimming pool inspections	138
Public health nuisance investigations	1,257
Plumbing and sewage inspection services provided:	
Plumbing permits issued	687
Plumbing inspections	2,372
Septic tank permits issued	727
Septic tank inspections	803
Forms for FHA, Conventional and VA loans processed	259

The Division of Inspection Services has continued its practice of providing training opportunities for food service operators in Mobile County through sponsorship of Food Manager Certification Programs and Frozen Dessert Training Classes.

Immediately following the May flood, the division provided advisement on flooding, food contamination, sewage, and inspection of food service establishments.

Division personnel were also instrumental in assisting the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Food and Drug Administration in food recalls in Mobile County. Active participation was sought by the Food and Drug Administration in the mushroom recall in May, 1981.

DIVISION OF MOSQUITO CONTROL

The Division of Mosquito Control completed its fourth full year of funded activities in 1981. The continuing goal for the division is to reduce the mosquito population, subsequently, lessening the nuisance level and the threat of mosquito-borne diseases.

Funding for the CETA grant to survey and abate **Aedes aegypti** breeding in the historic sections of Mobile was discontinued in April, 1981. However, limited surveillance was continued by division personnel for the remainder of the year.

Chemical control, the use of various chemicals to kill mosquito larvae (larviciding) and adult mosquitoes (adulticiding), played a major role in control efforts during the year. Mosquito Control personnel drove a total of 67,872 miles and larvicided 1,116 acres in attempts to control the mosquito in its aquatic habitat. As in 1980, emphasis was placed on adulticiding the more populated areas of the county. Staff personnel drove a total of 28,986 miles during the 135 nights that adulticiding activity was conducted. Limited aerial adulticiding was carried out during the year through contract service while mechanical problems encountered by the division's airplane were being resolved.

During the year, the Division of Mosquito Control relocated into a new, modern facility on Congress Street, adjacent to the Frank S. Keeler Memorial Building, providing ample room for equipment, vehicle and chemical storage.

Three (3) additional species of mosquitoes were identified during the year raising the total number of identified mosquito species in Mobile County to twenty-seven (27).

In cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) the Division ofMosquito Control continued its participation in the nation-wide dengue surveillance program.

A three-panel mosquito control display unit, as well as a mosquito kit and curriculum guide were developed for health education programs for both public and private schools.

The Source Reduction Advisory Committee met twice during the year to consider strategies for prevention and elimination of mosquito breeding through source reduction.

DIVISION OF RODENT CONTROL

The Division of Rodent Control experienced funding reductions resulting in program adjustments: the termination of the federally funded CETA Public Works Program and the reduction of direct federal funding necessitated sharper focus on the provision of maximum services with the allocated resources. Services on an individual basis continued to be provided whenever possible while greater emphasis was placed on the self-help approach through public education. Rodent Control personnel continued to work with other governmental agencies and community organizations in an attempt to reach the maximum number of people with available resources.

The division received 3,026 complaints of which 2,768 were verified and investigated. Surveys and complaint investigations resulted in 37,531 premises being inspected and treated with approximately 2,700 pounds of rodenticides.Surveillance of the effectiveness of rodenticides was continued.

The Federal Rodent Control Project ended its eighth year of operation. A total of 669 or 90% of the federally supported blocks are now designated as environmentally improved blocks; the remaining 10% of blocks in the target areas are working toward maintenance.

In-service training was carried out to keep staff personnel informed of the latest techniques and to make them aware of safety practices.

The program continued to use the latest biological, chemical, physical, and educational equipment available in its attack on rodent populations. Services were provided on a county-wide basis with concentrated efforts in communities exhibiting high infestation rates.

A three-panel educational exhibit displaying embalmed rats was developed for use in health education programs for both public and private schools.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

There were 11,604 communicable diseases reported in 1981. The staff made 2,217 epidemiological investigations and 2,956 follow-up nursing visits for reported diseases.

The incidence of Hepatitis B continued to increase in the community. In 1981, there were 85 cases as compared to 64 cases in 1980.

For the second consecutive year there were no reported cases of measles (rubeola) or German measles (rubella).

TABLE III
SELECTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED MOBILE COUNTY, 1977-1981

DISEASES	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis					
Primary	3	3	0	0	0
Secondary	0	2	4	3	4
Gonorrhea	3932	3750	3865	3094	3713
Hepatitis					
A	49	46	77	67	89
B	85	64	36	29	29
Other	20	30	13	15	35
Malaria	0	7	1	0	0
Measles					
Rubella	0	0	1	7	65
Rubeola	0	0	44	1	0
Meningitis					
Meningococcal	3	5	8	18	30
Tubercular	0	0	0	0	0
Other	99	71	42	52	57
Mumps	4	11	7	27	227
Pneumonia	1505	1419	1186	971	617
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever &					
Streptococcal Infections	723	725	1211	1403	1116
Salmonella, Shigella &					
E. Coli Infections	68	67	73	76	54
Syphilis	263	299	215	64	12
Tetanus	0	1	0	0	0
Typhoid	3	1	0	0	0
Tuberculosis	65	76	74	80	51
Whooping Cough	0	5	0	0	1

FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC

Henry L. Sherrod, Jr., M.D.
Office of Physician Services

John R. Williamson, M.P.H.
Director

Joy Rolison, M.S.N.
Office of Nursing Services

The Family Health Clinic includes the Bureau of Clinical Services, the Bureau of Clinical Support Services, the Bureau of Dental Health, the Office of Physician Services, the Office of Nursing Services and the Office of Medical Records and Billing.

During 1981, the Office of Medical Records and Billing in conjunction with the University of South Alabama Computer Center implemented the Family Health billing system. This system provided a fully automated method of recording clinical and administrative statistics for Primary Care, EPSDT (Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment), MIC (Maternity and Infant Care) Well Baby, and Dental Clinics, as well as an automated billing system. Efforts to centralize all medical records continued as 7,980 new records were created and approximately 27,000 records were handled for the Adult and Pediatric Ambulatory Care, EPSDT, Dental and MIC Well Baby Clinics.

The Office of Nursing Services has continued its responsibility of maintaining up-to-date standing orders and preventive health schedules for the various clinical programs; modifying patient records; orientation of new nursing staff; certification of clinical employees to perform venipunctures; and general continuing education activities. Several new education activities accomplished by this Office were: recertification of dental personnel in blood pressure measurement, certification of WIC (Women, Infants and Children) aides to do hematocrits and hemoglobins, and providing instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation to the police force in Bayou La Batre. This Office continued to conduct the audit activities for all clinical programs. Additional criteria for auditing STD (Sexually Transmitted Diseases) and Tuberculosis clinic records were implemented during the year.

BUREAU OF CLINICAL SERVICES

John R. Williamson, M.P.H.
Director

MATERNITY AND INFANT CARE PROJECT

Services provided through the Maternity and Infant Care Project (MIC) included prenatal, inpatient hospital care, post-partum care, well-baby care and family planning. All patients accepted for maternity care have incomes at or below the CSA (Community Services Administration) proverty level. Outpatient clinics for Project patients were located at the Frank S. Keeler Memorial Building and at the University of South Alabama Medical Center. Contractual arrangements with the University of South Alabama Medical Center allowed for selected MIC patients to receive care at the hospital's high risk clinics; weekend and night emergency services; inpatient services; laboratory; and diagnostic services. The USA Medical Center provided physician coverage for all of the maternity clinics. Patient care protocols for routine visits followed the recommendations of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

All patients received prenatal care including laboratory, pharmacy, obstetrical, nursing, nutrition and social services. Well child care was also provided for newborns up to one year of age.

The maternity program's major objective during 1981 was to increase the number of patients receiving prenatal services without reducing the quality of services. During 1981, 1,493 maternity patients were admitted to the Project, an increase of 357 patients over 1980. Another objective was to decrease the waiting time between the patients' initial application and the time of her first appointment. The waiting time was reduced from four or five weeks in 1980 to no more than one week at the end of 1981. The reduced waiting time allowed the Project to provide earlier prenatal care thus allowing early diagnosis of potential problems and treatment where necessary.

The genetic screening program in cooperation with the Department of Medical Genetics, USA Medical Center, continued with maternity patients referred (with their approval) for genetic studies as indicated.

Data for 1981 indicate that 1006 MIC deliveries were performed at USA Medical Center. There were ten (10) MIC infant deaths for an MIC infant death rate of 9.9 per 1,000 live births as compared to 5.6 in 1980.

Vital events for the year were:

MIC births at USA Medical Center		1006
Birthweights		
0-2000 grams	38	
2001-2500 grams	54	
Over 2501 grams	893	
Stillborn	21	
MIC maternal deaths		0
MIC infant deaths		10
MIC infant death rate		9.9

The Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Information and Counselling Project (SIDS), which had heretofore been conducted by the Health Department and served an eight county area, became part of a statewide SIDS Project. Locally, the new SIDS program was transferred from the Division of Ambulatory Care to become part of the MIC Project. The SIDS program is staffed by a part-time public health nurse who provides education and counselling services.

During 1981, seven (7) SIDS deaths were recorded in Mobile County. Counselling sessions were offered to affected parents.

Educational programs were conducted by the SIDS nurse for all enlistees at the City of Mobile Police Academy, police in the City of Bayou La Batre, and USA Medical Center Emergency Room personnel regarding first response to suspected SIDS deaths.

FAMILY PLANNING PROJECT

The Family Planning Project provided contraceptive information, medical services,

and contraceptive supplies to residents of Mobile County desiring family planning services. The purpose of the Family Planning Project is to provide women of childbearing age with the freedom to determine the number and spacing of their children. Family planning services are provided on a fee schedule with charges based upon the patients' income and family size. However, services were not refused to any patients due to inability to pay. Contraceptive methods offered included oral contraceptives, intrauterine devices, diaphragms, contraceptive foam, condoms, referrals for natural family planning, and discussion of abstinence as a method of birth control; the patient was encouraged to choose the method best suited to meet his or her needs. Services for abortion or referrals for abortions are not offered through Maternity or Family Planning clinics of the Mobile County Health Department.

Medical clinics were staffed by University of South Alabama Medical Center residents and private physicians under contract. The Family Planning Project operated morning and afternoon medical clinics, five days per week, in addition to refill clinics three times a week. The weekly Teen Clinic provided services to new teen patients. Patients received a medical examination, laboratory tests, and family planning counselling during each medical visit.

A public health nurse completed OB-GYN nurse practitioner training during the year and is expected to be certified in 1982.

During 1981, the Mobile County Family Planning Advisory Council was changed to the Mobile County Maternal and Child Health/Family Planning Advisory Council to allow the Council to offer ideas, advice, and expertise on matters pertaining to maternal and child health as well as family planning activities in Mobile County. The Project staff coordinated the activities of the Advisory Council during 1981. The Council was composed of consumers, providers, and agency representatives with all members being residents of Mobile County. Four general meetings of the Council as well as various committee meetings were held during the year.

The major objective of the Family Planning Project during 1981 was to reduce waiting time from initial contact to time of appointment. At the end of 1980, the waiting time was approximately four weeks. During 1981, the waiting period was reduced to one week or less. In many instances, the patient could be seen the same day as initial contact was made. Statistics show that 6,603 patients made 15,366 visits to Family Planning Clinics during 1981.

DIVISION OF AMBULATORY CARE

The Division of Ambulatory Care includes the EPSDT (Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment or Medicaid Screening) program, Maternity and Infant Care (MIC) well baby services, ambulatory care services including preventive health examinations for children and adults, hypertension screening services, and screening services for Indo-Chinese refugees.

The EPSDT program provided free physical examinations and dental examinations for children through twenty years of age who were certified as Medicaid eligible. If an abnormality was noted during the examination, a referral appointment was made with a Health Department clinic, a private physician or another agency in accordance with the wishes of the patient. The program served 4,576 children during 1981, a decrease from over 7,000 children in 1980.

The well-baby services of the MIC Project included physical examinations and nutrition counselling for infants of women delivered through the Project. Examinations were provided at one, two, four, six, nine, and twelve months of age. The program provided 2,557 examinations during 1981.

Ambulatory care services were provided to medically needy children and adults. For pediatric patients, the program included physical examinations for routine health care, and acute care services for illnesses and minor injuries. When appropriate, referral appointments were made to private physicians or other agencies in accordance with the wishes of the parent. The program recorded 2,954 well children examinations and 2,019 acute care visits in 1981.

Adult ambulatory care services included health maintenance for patients with chronic diseases, physical examinations for routine health care, and acute care services for illnesses and minor injuries. Chronic disease maintenance included diabetic and hypertensive patients. The program had 4,136 visits during the year.

The hypertension screening program has been available at the Health Department for ten (10) years. Patients found to have elevated blood pressure readings were referred to the adult clinic, a private physician, or another agency according to the patients' wishes. During 1981, 540 screenings were provided.

In April, 1981, the Division of Ambulatory Care initiated screening services for Indo-Chinese refugees. For the year, 265 refugees were screened. The most common findings were positive tuberculin skin tests, intestinal parasites, and positive Hepatitis B blood tests.

In October, 1981, a National Health Service Corps (NHSC) nutritionist was assigned to the Division of Ambulatory Care to provide assessments, counselling and education services to clinic patients concerning their nutritional needs.

BUREAU OF CLINICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Derel G. Till, M.P.H.
Director

The Bureau of Clinical Support Services includes the divisions of Home Health Services, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Project, Ancillary Health Services, and Communicable Disease Control encompassing Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Immunization programs. During the year, Bureau Director David Kinsaul resigned. He was replaced by Derel Till, previously Director, Bureau of Clinical Services.

DIVISION OF HOME HEALTH SERVICES

The Division of Home Health Services continued to provide skilled nursing care to Mobile County residents. Physician referrals allowed the division to serve patients on Medicaid, Medicare, as well as the medically indigent. Despite fluctuating staff allocations during the year, the Home Health Program was able to service its patients without interruption. Funding reductions directed our efforts toward providing services only to those patients considered homebound.

The following is a listing of home health visits for the calendar year.

Communicable Disease	
Tuberculosis	620
Acute and Chronic Illness	
Medicare	1,767
Medicaid	346
Disease and Disability	2,776
Other	
Child Health	304
Family Planning	5
Homemaker	1,218
Maternity	1,270
Other	0
Total Visits	8,306

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN PROJECT

The Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) was continued in 1981. The caseload was reduced from 3,900 in January to 3,200 in December due to funding reductions. A total of 40,438 participants received food vouchers during the year: twenty percent (20%) were pregnant or breast-feeding women, forty percent (40%) were infants and forty percent (40%) were children.

The WIC staff for 1981 consisted of one (1) nutrition supervisor, two (2) nutritionists, four (4) clerks and six (6) nurses aides. The nutritionists completed nutrition assessments on all new applicants and those requiring recertification; these assessments totalled 1,521 for women, 2,981 for infants and 2,901 for children. Educational information provided by Project staff in the form of handouts and pamphlets totalled 19,000.

DIVISION OF ANCILLARY HEALTH SERVICES

The Division of Ancillary Health Services consists of the pharmacy which provides prescription services for all Health Department clinics; laboratory services, which provide routine blood, urine, and screening services for all clinic programs; and X-ray services.

A Pharmacy and Therapeutic Committee was formed to advise on policies and procedures used in pharmacy operations.

All routine lab work was performed in-house whereas more complex tests were referred to community laboratories with advanced capabilities. We continued our participation in the College of American Pathologists (CAP) Clinical Laboratory Proficiency Testing Program.

DIVISION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

TUBERCULOSIS

The Tuberculosis Program continued in its efforts to locate, bring to treatment, and follow-up cases of tuberculosis in Mobile County. There were 65 new cases of tuberculosis reported in Mobile County in 1981 for a case rate of 17.4 per 100,000 population. The open case register in December contained 94 cases as compared to 114 in December of 1980, the lowest overall caseload since official records have been kept.

The Tuberculosis Program conducted clinics four days each week. On Friday of each week, a special clinic was conducted to handle special medical problems, including atypical tuberculosis. These clinics were staffed by contract physicians and Fellows in Pulmonary Disease from the University of South Alabama Medical Center.

There were 20,542 tuberculin skin tests given in 1981 through the Tuberculosis Program and an additional 9,564 skin tests given through the foodhandler's program. A total of 3,029 persons received chest X-rays.

TABLE IV
TUBERCULOSIS CASES
Mobile County
1976-1981

Year	New Cases	Case Rate per 100,000 Population	Deaths
1976	81	25.4	7
1977	51	19.7	9
1978	80	25.0	5
1979	74	23.1	5
1980	76	23.7	4
1981	65	17.4	5

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

Mobile County experienced a 17% decrease of primary and secondary syphilis with 172 cases reported in 1981 as compared to 208 in 1980. An additional 91 early latent cases were reported in 1981. Gonorrhea cases increased 4.8% over 1980 with a total of 3,932 reported cases in 1981.

Contributing to the progress made in 1981 was a stable epidemiological staff plus improved diagnostic and laboratory services in the clinic setting. Gram stain capabilities in the laboratory permitted quick and accurate diagnosis and therefore more effective treatment of sexually transmitted diseases.

Investigation and follow-up of women with pelvic inflammatory disease, which was added as a core clinic service in 1980, was continued.

TABLE V
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES
Mobile County
1976-1981

Year	Gonorrhea	Primary and Secondary Syphilis
1976	3,788	15
1977	3,713	12
1978	3,094	64
1979	3,865	144
1980	3,750	208
1981	3,932	172

IMMUNIZATIONS

During 1981, a total of 35,842 immunizations were administered to 20,395 patients through Health Department clinics.

The annual school entrance immunization survey of kindergarten and first grades revealed that 98.0% of all Mobile County children entering school were fully immunized (3-DTP, 3-OPV, MMR).

TABLE VI
IMMUNIZATIONS ADMINISTERED IN 1981

Type of Vaccine	Total
Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (DTP)	12,286
Poliomyelitis, Oral (OPV)	13,631
Tetanus, Diphtheria (Td)	3,461
Tetanus Toxoid	13
Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)	3,690
Measles, Rubella (MR)	610
Mumps	599
Rubella (German measles)	571
Rubeola (measles)	38
Cholera	9
Yellow Fever	4
Pneumococcal Pneumonia	78
Influenza	602
Gamma Globulin	250
Total	35,842

on preventing tooth and gum disease.

Providing fluoride drops and tablets for children, coating children's teeth with fluoride solutions and pastes, and removal of dental plaque from teeth of children and adults.

TABLE VII
Dental Services
1981

Number of Patient Visits	10,667
Preventive Services	
Prophylaxes	2,680
X-rays	7,233
Topical Fluoride Treatments	2,247
Oral Hygiene Instruction	785
Treatment Services	
Clinical examinations and treatment plans	3,610
Restorations (fillings)	3,692
Extractions	2,818
Miscellaneous Procedures	1,957
Dental Health Education	
Lectures and Slide Presentations	628
Attendance at above	11,205
Screening and School Dental Inspections	11,652
Dental Health Educational Materials Distributed	16,000

The Mobile County Health Department is operated in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. All facilities and services of this agency are available to all patients without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, religion or political affiliation. In addition, no person shall, solely by reason of his/her physical handicap, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of this agency.

Report Prepared By:
the Office of Public Education
and Public Relations

OFFICE OF HEALTH EDUCATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Vivian DeVivo, M.Ed.
Director

The Office of Health Education and Public Relations provided professional and lay presentations to private and public schools, community agencies, college and universities, church groups, civic clubs and organizations. A total of 9,031 educational pamphlets were distributed through the Office.

Publicity, information and resource referral for all bureaus and divisions was another pertinent function. The Office holds responsibility for the dissemination of all news information to local press and broadcast media. During 1981, 30 assorted news releases appeared in print with 2 major news conferences scheduled; and 9 Public Service Announcements produced.

The Office participated in several health fairs throughout the county providing educational materials as well as referrals on numerous health topics.

A Teenage Pregnancy Steering Committee comprised of several community leaders was formed to foster awareness of the teenage pregnancy problem, serve as advocates of educational programs for both adolescents and parents, and to sponsor a seminar in the Fall of 1982.