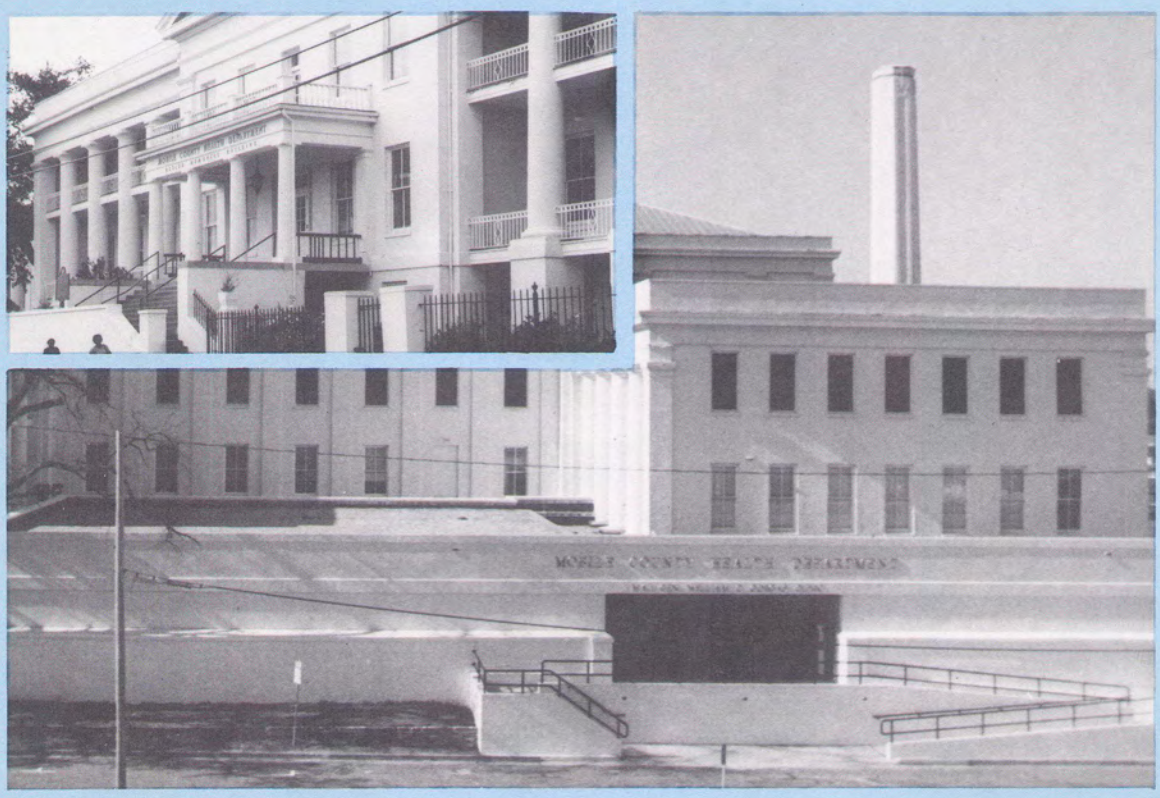
1986 ANNUAL REPORT



THE MOBILE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Major General William C. Gorgas Clinic

ANNUAL REPORT
1986

MOBILE COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
251 N. Bayou Street
Mobile, Alabama 36603

Mobile County Health Department

Major General William C. Gorgas Clinic

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

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

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New public health needs coupled with dwindling resources have placed a great challenge on the Mobile County Health Department. The problem of AIDS and its related conditions surfaced to the top of the public health agenda. While the reported cases of AIDS appeared low, considerable work was done on the coordination of in-house services and of community resources, screening for persons at high risk, as well as educating the general public.

With the receipt of a grant for a Diabetes Control Program, we were able to comprehensively address the health needs of the adult diabetic population. With the goal of preventing complications arising from uncontrolled diabetes, emphasis was placed on education, nutrition, and screening.

An anti-smoking campaign was initiated in July 1986, in hopes of assisting U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. C. Everett Koop, in meeting the national objective of a smoke-free society by the year 2000. The first phase of the campaign focused attention on establishments serving the general public in encouraging the use of designated areas for nonsmokers. The second phase focused on smoking practices and policies by the health care industry. Plans for next year include working with employers to provide smoke-free environments for nonsmokers. Ultimately, we would like to see our elected officials adopt a smoking ordinance.

We remain committed to addressing the preventive health care needs of Mobilians, and with your continued support we hope we can make a difference.

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

Francis W. Sullivan, M.D.

251 N. BAYOU STREET • P.O. BOX 2867 • MOBILE, ALABAMA 36652 • (205) 690-8158

BOARD OF HEALTH

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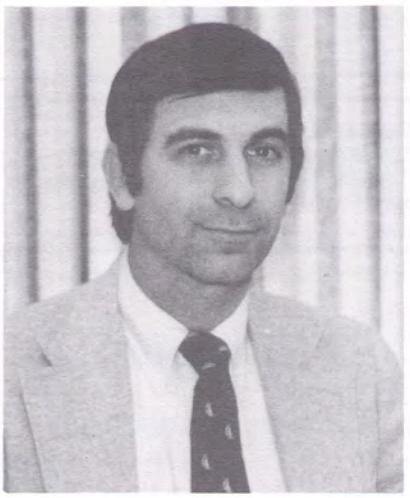

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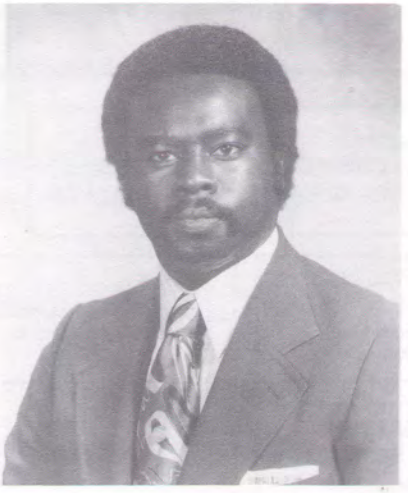
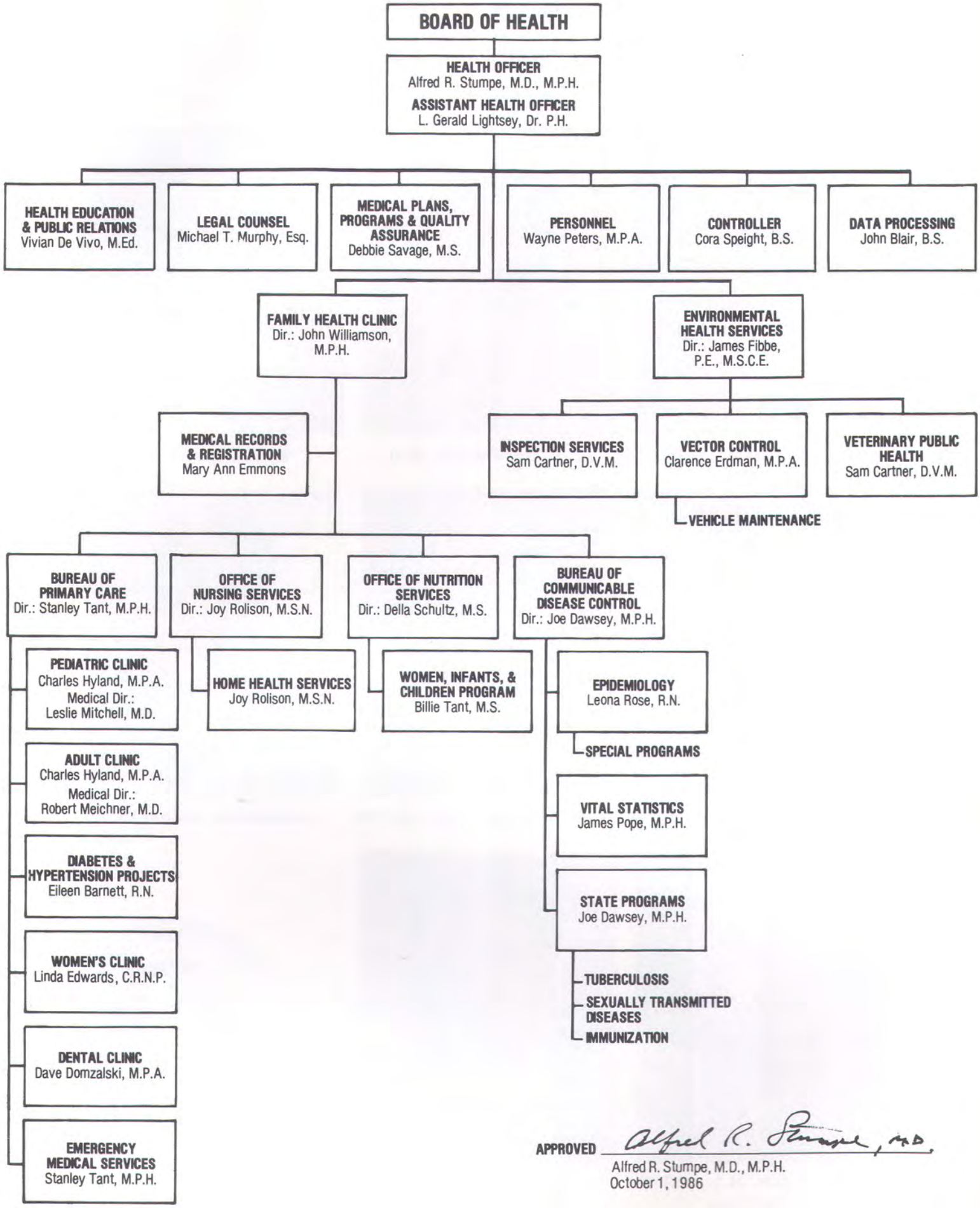


Commissioner Douglas Wicks

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

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



APPROVED Alfred R. Stumpe, M.D.

Alfred R. Stumpe, M.D., M.P.H.
October 1, 1986

HIGHLIGHTS

- Establishment of a Diabetes Control Program as a pilot project of the Alabama Department of Public Health.
- Addition of one U.S. National Health Service Corps pediatrician in the Bureau of Primary Care.
- A two-month chlamydia study done in the Women's Clinic yielded a 21 percent positive return.
- Establishment of two new satellite immunization clinics in the northern and southern sections of the county.
- A one-month study in the STD Clinic to ascertain prevalence of the AIDS virus (HIV) revealed 4.3 percent seropositivity. A similar one-month study in the Maternity Program failed to detect any pregnant women with antibodies to the AIDS virus.
- Initiation of an anti-smoking campaign in Mobile County including free smoking cessation programs offered at the worksite.
- Installation of closed circuit television for educational purposes in clinic waiting areas.
- Implementation of a sixth grade Family Health Program in the public schools reaching 2,746 students.
- Internal audits of the Tuberculosis and Sexually Transmitted Disease programs were implemented.

MOBILE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Francis W. Sullivan, M.D.	December 1986
L. Steven Weinstein, M.D.	December 1987
Knut E. Mueller, M.D.	December 1988
Crampton Harris, Jr., M.D.	December 1989
Bernard H. Eichold II, M.D., Dr. P.H.	December 1990
Honorable Douglas Wicks	President, Mobile County Commission

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L. Gerald Lightsey, Dr. P.H.	Assistant Health Officer
John R. Williamson, M.P.H.	Family Health Clinic
W. Stanley Tant, M.P.H.	Bureau of Primary Care
Joe M. Dawsey, M.P.H.	Bureau of Communicable Disease Control
James E. Fibbe, P.E., M.S.C.E.	Environmental Health Services

FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC

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

On October 1, 1986 the Family Health Clinic was reorganized to include all clinical programs within the Health Department. Adminstratively, the Family Health Clinic consists of the Bureau of Primary Care; the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control; Medical Records and Registration; the Office of Nursing Services; and the Office of Nutrition Services.

Bureau Of Primary Care

The Bureau of Primary Care includes the Pediatric Clinic; the Adult Clinic; the Diabetes and Hypertension Projects; the Women's Clinic encompassing maternity, family planning, and cancer screening services; and the Dental Clinic.

In September 1986, the Health Department was funded, through a federal grant awarded the Alabama Department of Public Health, to establish a pilot program for a Statewide Diabetes Control Program. This new grant emphasized the educational and nutritional aspects which play an important role in the prevention of complications which arise from uncontrolled diabetes.

One additional National Health Service Corps physician was employed during 1986 to provide pediatric care. This board eligible pediatrician has enabled the Pediatric Clinic to discontinue care by contract physicians, as well as enabling the clinic to increase its work load and improving the continuity of patient care.

The Women's Clinic established a GYN problem clinic with coverage provided by two National Health Service Corps OB/GYN physicians working under a Department of Health and Human Services approved consortium plan with the Franklin Memorial Primary Health Center and the Mostellar Medical Clinic.

Pediatric Clinic

The Pediatric Clinic continued to provide acute and preventive medical services to infants, children and adolescents residing in Mobile County. Pediatric well child visits numbered 4,226; pediatric acute care visits totaled 3,190.

During the year, one full-time pediatrician was added to the staff enabling the clinic to better serve the in-need population. This staffing addition led to an increased number of acute care visits in the Pediatric Clinic.

The Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program which began in 1972, continued to be a service for Medicaid eligible children. There were 1,083 visits for physical examinations in 1986 compared to 1,733 visits in 1985. The decrease in the number of EPSDT visits is attributable to Medicaid's not providing health departments with a list of eligible children during a seven month period.

Adult Clinic

The Adult Clinic primarily served adult and geriatric patients with chronic problems which required extensive follow-up. In addition, the Clinic provided refugee screening, hypertension screening and referral, and nutrition counseling. The population seen in the clinic primarily consisted of patients with limited incomes, as well as patients on Medicaid and/or Medicare.

Adult visits during 1986 numbered 7,066. Additionally, high blood pressure screenings were performed on 2,901 patients, of which 101 were referred for further evaluation and treatment.

In coordination with the State Health Department and Catholic Social Services, recently arrived Southeast Asian refugees received screenings and treatment in the Clinic. The number of refugees entering Mobile County has remained relatively stable for the past several years; in 1986, 166 refugees settled in Mobile County as compared to 157 in 1985. However, the clinic screened 192 refugees, some of which had settled in the area in 1985 but screenings were not performed until 1986.

Diabetes and Hypertension Projects

Through a federal grant awarded to the State Health Department, the Mobile County Health Department was selected as the site for a pilot program for a diabetic education and screening program. The focus of this new program was directed at providing comprehensive continuum of care for diabetics at risk of vision loss caused by diabetic retinopathy and/or other complications from uncontrolled diabetes and coexistent hypertension. During the four months of operation in 1986, a total of 140 diabetic patients were evaluated and counseled through the Diabetic Program. Fifty-three patients were referred to the University of South Alabama Mastin Eye Clinic for sensitive eye examinations. The visual screening identified 18 or 33 per-

cent of the patients as having diabetic retinopathy. These patients are being followed and evaluated for treatment in the Mastin Clinic.

Women's Clinic

Maternity Program

The Maternity Program continued to pursue its goal of improved pregnancy outcomes for indigent patients residing in Mobile County. The Program provided prenatal and postpartum care to pregnant women. In addition, all patients were given a complete screening to determine other medical and social needs, and referrals made to Family Planning at the time of postpartum care. Patients were also referred to the Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) for nutrition counseling and vouchers for food supplementation. Patients considered to be at high risk were seen at a special clinic for their prenatal care.

Patient care protocols for routine care followed the recommendations of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Patient care was provided by resident physicians from the University of South Alabama's Health Services Foundation, Department of OB/GYN; OB/GYN physicians with the U.S. Public Health Service (shared with two other primary care centers - Franklin Memorial and Mostellar Clinics); public health nurses and a certified registered nurse practitioner. In 1986, there were 15,920 visits for maternity care.

In April 1986, a one-month HIV antibody study was done to ascertain the virus' prevalence in this clinic population. A total of 147 women were screened all of which were seronegative.

During the months of July and August, a chlamydia study was done to identify the prevalence of chlamydia in the clinic. Out of 334 pregnant females tested, 67 or 20 percent tested positive.

The following chart reflects the pregnancy outcomes for patients who delivered in 1986.

TABLE I
MIC PREGNANCY OUTCOMES
1986

MIC Births at USA Medical Center:	1248
Birth Weights	
0-2000 grams	23
2001-2500 grams	90
Over 2500 grams	1135
Deliveries By Race	
Black	779
White	469
Fetal Deaths	4
MIC Maternal Deaths	0
MIC Infant Deaths	21
MIC Infant Death Rate	16.82

The Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) program was staffed by a part-time public health nurse who provided counseling and follow-up to parents of SIDS victims, and educational services to the community (including new recruits of Mobile's Police Department). A total of 10 suspected SIDS cases were reported during 1986, all of which were confirmed by autopsy. Three of the infants were born to mothers who had received prenatal care through the Maternity Clinic; and one infant was a patient in the Pediatric Clinic.

Family Planning Program

During 1986, the Family Planning Program provided information, supplies, and medical services to residents of Mobile County desiring family planning services. Patients were provided contraceptive information and were encouraged to select the method of birth control which best suited their needs.

In addition to the educational information given, medical services, and contraceptive supplies were also provided. The following contraceptive methods were offered to patients: oral contraceptives; diaphragms; contraceptive foam and creams; and condoms. Intra-uterine devices were no longer provided due to high cost associated with product liability. Discussions on natural family planning as a birth control method were also held. Services for abortion were not offered through the Family Planning Program.

Family planning services were provided by resident physicians from the University of South Alabama's Health Services Foundation, Department of OB/GYN; one private physician under contract; and OB/GYN physicians with the U.S. Public Health Service (shared with two other primary care centers - Franklin Memorial and Mostellar Clinics). Additional services were provided by a certified registered nurse practitioner and public health nurses.

During 1986, there were 2,039 new patients admitted to the program. Total visits by all patients numbered 11,512. Oral contraceptives were dispensed on a 12-month supply schedule which accounted for an increase in new patients and the decrease in the total number of visits.

The Family Planning Program continued to offer free screenings for breast and uterine cancer as a part of the Cancer Detection Program. A total of 394 patients were screened, one of which was found to have a cervical cancer.

As a result of the additional clinician services available through the Primary Care Consortium, patients with gynecological problems not related to family planning were able to be seen and services paid for in accordance with a sliding fee scale.

During the months of July and August, a chlamydia study was conducted to identify the prevalence of chlamydia among contracepting women in the clinic. A total of 998 patients were screened yielding 210 or 21 percent reactives.

Dental Clinic

Due to budgetary constraints, dental services were curtailed during 1986. Staffing was reduced through attrition and the Clinic was reorganized to combine dental services and dental health education functions.

Although the number of patients seen was reduced, quality dental service was maintained. The emphasis of the program remained on children under 18 years of age. Full dental services were available which included examination, X-ray, prohylaxis, fluoride treatment, sealants, fillings and extractions.

Emergency extractions for adults were performed as clinic time permitted. Fees assessed for services were based on a sliding scale, based on the patients ability to pay.

Dental health education continued to receive the necessary emphasis. Patients coming to the Clinic received instructions on proper tooth brushing procedures and encouragment to develop good oral hygiene practices. Instruction was also available for children and expectant mothers enrolled in the WIC program. A dental hygienist offered a presentation on oral health to groups of students at public schools upon school request.

The fluoride mouthrinse program was conducted weekly during the school year at the 21 public elementary schools not serviced by a fluoridated water system. Approximately 16,000 students participated in the program. Recent dental studies indicated that the fluoride brush-in program offered to middle schools could be effectively replaced by a fluoride mouthrinse program at lower costs. In view of those findings, plans were formulated to add 20 middle schools to the mouthrinse program which would include approximately 14,000 additional students.

Medical Records and Registration

An estimated 45,000 active Health Department patient records were maintained during 1986 by the staff. Daily activity in this important area included pulling and tracking records, filing and posting laboratory results. Inactive records were routinely transferred to storage and filed for easy retrieval when necessary.

With the exception of the Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic (STD), Tuberculosis Clinic (TB), and Dental Clinic, patient registration for all clinics was carried out at a central registration location. During 1986 approximately 55,555 patient visits were recorded at this central site. Computer on-line registration, through use of display terminals provided instant access to patient data during registration. Computerization also allowed the registrar to verify, modify, and delete data as necessary without having to manually resort to cumbersome printed documents.

Another integral part of the registration process was the patient interview by the social service staff to verify income and determine the ability to pay. This information was then utilized in setting the pay status based on a sliding fee scale.

Central Laboratory

The Central Laboratory was responsible for performing laboratory testing on all patients requested by clinic physicians or as requested by standing orders. Requested tests that could not be scheduled for the Central Laboratory, or which could not be performed by the laboratory, were contracted out to either a private laboratory or to the Mobile Branch Laboratory of the Alabama Department of Public Health.

As a result of increased demand for in-house laboratory testing an additional laboratory technician was employed. This staff addition significantly increased the laboratory production. A breakdown of the number of tests provided by source is as follows:

In-House	74,831
State Laboratory	42,952
Private Laboratory	21,688
	139,471

The Coulter System, laboratory equipment for analyzing blood samples, was purchased during 1986. This system enabled the laboratory to perform sophisticated tests more accurately and with a minimum of attention by the technologist. In addition, it provided automatic printed calculations on certain tests.

The medical and laboratory technicians assigned to the Central Laboratory participated in the College of American Pathologist Excel Quality Assurance Program. Under this program, unknown specimens were sent to the laboratory on a quarterly basis for identification.

Pharmacy

The Health Department employed a full-time pharmacist to fill prescriptions written by clinic physicians. Prescriptions written by physicians outside of the clinics were also filled for disease outbreaks, rheumatic heart disease prevention, and similar situations. The pharmacy work load for 1986, by clinic, was as follows:

Clinic	Number of Prescriptions Filled
Primary Care	6,495
Women's	
Maternity	482
Family Planning	655
Dental	604
STD	268
Disease Outbreaks/Other	1,660
Total	**10,164**

X-ray

In-house X-ray services were provided for the Tuberculosis Clinic, Pediatric Clinic, Adult Clinic, for barbers and beauticians, and private physician referrals. The X-ray work load for 1986 was as follows:

Clinic	Number
Adult	925
Maternity	33
Tuberculosis	78
Other	1,089
Total	**2,125**

Office of Nursing Services

The Office of Nursing Services continued its responsibility of updating standing orders and preventive health schedules used in clinical programs; preparation and revision of medical forms; recruitment of nurses; orientation of staff and nursing students; and continuing education activities for staff. During the last three months of the year, the Office was given the direct responsibility for Home Health Services.

The Office of Nursing Services has managed the employee rubella program since its inception. During 1986, a total of 35 employees completed the vaccination requirements. The total number completing the program requirements since July 1981 is 436.

The Office also administered the Heptavax vaccination for employees. This year 14 individuals completed the series bringing the total to 53 since March 1983. To date no side effects have been noted.

During the latter part of the year, the nurses' aides were trained to perform tuberculosis skin tests using a needle and syringe. In addition, certification in basic procedures was started with the public health nurses as well as nurses' aides.

Home Health Services

Services provided to patients in the home setting included skilled nursing care, personal care, and physical therapy to persons referred by physicians for home care. Due to budgetary restraints, nursing care services were restricted to patients residing outside the City of Mobile limits. Patients living within the city were referred to the Visiting Nurses Association.

Home Health Services continued to serve as the referral source for the University of South Alabama Medical Center (USAMC) for patients residing in all other counties in Public Health Area VI. During the year, 72 referrals were made to other county health departments.

The contract with the Mobile County Department of Human Resources (DHR) to provide parenting skills to parents who have abused or neglected their children was continued. Families were selected by DHR social workers and then referred to Home Health Services for parenting services.

During the year, difficulty was encountered in following special child health referrals from USAMC. Arrangements were made with the hospital's discharge planner to work on an improved referral system.

The following table reflects the activities completed during the calendar year 1986:

TABLE II
HOME HEALTH SERVICES

Service	Total Patients	Total Visits	Visits by PHN	Visits by Aides	Contract
Home Health					
Medicare	41	1,384	886	498	
Medicaid	35	1,001	663	338	
Disease & Disability	146	2,774	2,031	743	
Physical Therapy	3	38	0	0	
Other					
Adult Health	18	543	442	101	
Child Health	52	711	711	0	
Tuberculosis	26	397	397	0	
Homemaker	17	233	0	233	
Parenting	49	1,942	0	1,942	
Physical Therapy					38

Office of Nutrition Services

The Office of Nutrition Services continued to provide nutrition assessment, counseling, and education to patients in the Women's Clinic as well as to patients in the Pediatric and Adult Clinics.

Special dietary consultations were provided to 36 Health Department maternity patients participating in the University of South Alabama Medical Center's study on the "The Use of Prophylactic Insulin with Diet Compared to Diet Alone in the Management of Gestational Onset of Diabetes Mellitus." Enrollment of patients in this study will continue in 1987.

Nutrition counseling was provided to participatns enrolled in the Diabetes and Hypertension Projects which began in September 1986. Participants included Health Department patients as well as referrals from other primary health care centers, and private physicians in Mobile County. Patients were instructed in individualized meal plans using the exchange list system. Other areas addressed were improved selection of dietary fats and the inclusion of adequate fiber in meal planning.

Weight management programs for patients were continued in 1986. Four groups of individuals participated. Behavior modification techniques, food selection and appropriate exercise were the topics covered in the program. Two weight management programs of ten-week duration for employees were offered; 52 individuals participated on their lunch hour one day per week.

Women, Infants, and Children Program

The Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) was continued in 1986. The Mobile County program was among the 52 original pilot programs funded and introduced in February 1974. Throughout the year emphasis was placed on increasing the case load and serving more residents in-need in the county.

The number of participants enrolled in the program increased from 5,294 in January 1986 to 6,249 in December 1986. This increase was due largely to outreach efforts and to the addition of more satellite clinics in the county. A total of 65,646 vouchers were issued to participants during the year.

Approximately 5,471 participants received their vouchers each month and the overall participation rate for the year was 95.4 percent.

The participant case load was composed of three categories: women (pregnant, breastfeeding, or postpartum); infants (birth to one year); and children (one year to five years). Categorical enrollment is listed in Table III.

Certification and voucher issuance were made at the Health Department, and in addition on a weekly basis at the Mostellar Clinic in Bayou La Batre to accommodate participants living in south Mobile County; and on a semi-monthly basis at a satellite site in Mt. Vernon to accommodate participants in north Mobile County. During the month of October a satellite clinic was opened in Wilmer to serve participants residing in west Mobile County. Due to space limitations in the WIC Program, vouchers were mailed on alternate months to participants. Approximately 29 percent of the vouchers issued each month were mailed in 1986.

Fifty-one grocery stores in Mobile County contracted with the WIC Program to accept vouchers. The authorized foods for 1986 were milk, cheese, fruit juice, eggs, iron-fortified cereal, and peanut butter for women and children; and iron-fortified formula, juice, and cereal for infants. Federal guidelines established maximum amounts for each category, and nutritionists planned the food package for each individual participant at the time of certification.

Program guidelines required that nutrition education be provided at the certification assessment in addition to a planned secondary encounter. The WIC nurses and nutritionists provided 3,698 encounters to women, 3,536 to infants, and 4,929 to children. Secondary encounters totaled 5,305. Total encounters for 1986 were 17,468 as compared to 12,466 in 1985.

TABLE III
WIC PARTICIPANT CASELOAD
1986

Category	Monthly Average	Annual Visits	Percentage
Women	1,434	17,216	25%
Infants	2,177	26,118	38%
Children	2,126	25,509	37%
Total	**5,737**	**68,843**	**100%**

BUREAU OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

Joe Dawsey, M.P.H.
Director

The Bureau of Communicable Disease Control includes Epidemiology, Vital Statistics, Tuberculosis Control, Sexually Transmitted Diseases Control, Immunization, and Special Programs.

Some of the accomplishments during 1986 included a month long testing program for HIV antibody for all Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic patients. This study of 443 patients found 4.3 percent of patients to be seropositive, almost a one hundred fold increase when compared to the findings among local blood donors.

Immunization services expanded with additional satellite clinics in Creola and Grand Bay bringing the total of satellite immunization clinics to nine in Mobile County. The Immunization Clinic was able to accommodate the large increase of requests for influenza immunizations despite vaccine shortages experienced in the private sector. Both the trivalent and monovalent influenza vaccines were administered during the Fall of the year.

During 1986, routine quarterly audits of Tuberculosis and Sexually Transmitted Diseases patient records were initiated. The audits' purpose was to address quality of care, cost of services, and long-range goals.

The testing and training program for foodhandlers was reorganized with more emphasis being placed on the education of foodhandlers in regards to safe foodhandling practices and extending the length of time between medical screenings.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

During 1986, there were 4,753 reported cases of communicable diseases in Mobile County. In addition, 183 presumptive cases were reported but later ruled out. Table IV reflects the number of reported cases of selected diseases for the years 1982-1986. The staff made 4,936 epidemiology visits and investigated an additional 2,288 contacts of the reported diseases.

There were five reported cases of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) reported during 1986. This brings to 16 the number of cases of AIDS reported in Mobile County since July 1983. Of the 16 cases, there have been 13 deaths (81%) as of December 31, 1986.

During 1986, there were 254 cases of giardiasis reported compared to 421 in 1985. Giardiasis occured in 27 day care centers with a total of 104 cases. There were also nine salmonellosis cases in day care centers and nine in nursing homes. Hepatitis B reported cases totaled 238 in 1986, a marked increase from the 150 cases reported in 1985. There were 24 cases of Hepatitis A in 1986 as compared to 17 cases in 1985.

Other communicable diseases reported are as follows: Amebiasis, 5; Encephalitis, 5; Campylobacteriosis, 75; Influenza-like URI, 196; Salmonellosis, 126; Shigellosis, 4; Brucellosis, 1; Kawasaki Syndrome, 1; Legionellosis, 1; Leprosy (Tuberculoid), 1; Malaria, 3; Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, 3; Septicemia (Desulfovibrio desulfuricans), 1; Toxoplasmosis, 6; Vibrio Infections, 1.

VITAL STATISTICS

The major responsibilities include the collection of vital records (births, deaths, and fetal deaths) in Mobile County; the issuance, upon request, of certified copies of vital records; the collection of miscellaneous fees for clinical and pharmacy services provided by the Health Department; registration of applicants for foodhandlers permits; and the compilation of a monthly report indicating types of Health Department services provided by municipality in Mobile County.

A total of 11,205 vital events were recorded in Mobile County (for residents and nonresidents) in 1986; 7,554 live births; 3,569 deaths; and 82 fetal deaths. Provisional data for resident births (Table V) show that there were 6,574 births in 1986 for an annual birth rate of 17.1 per 1,000 population, the same as in 1985. The birth rate in Mobile County continues to be higher than both the State of Alabama (14.3) and the United States (15.7). Of the 6,574 births, 1,121 (17.1%) were to adolescent mothers compared to 19.5 percent in 1981.

Provisional data also show that there were 3,058 resident deaths in 1986 for an annual death rate of 8.0 per 1,000 population (Table V). Infant deaths in 1986 totaled 92 for an infant mortality rate of 14.0 per 1,000 live births. This provisional rate is 13 percent higher than the infant death rate for 1985 and is the highest infant death rate for Mobile County since 1982 when is was 15.5. One maternal death was reported in Mobile County in 1986.

Death rates for Mobile County, the State of Alabama, and the United States for the period 1981-1986 are presented in Table VI. The downward trend of the death

rate in Mobile should be noted, and also that the rate for Mobile County continues to be slightly lower than that for the State as a whole, as well as for the United States.

As in 1985, heart disease continued to be the number one cause of death in Mobile County in 1986 accounting for 915 (30%) of total resident deaths; cancer accounted for 657 deaths (21.5%); diseases of the arteries, 232 (8.6%); stroke, 211 (7%); and accidents, 119 deaths (4%) as shown in Table VII. Of special note is the increase in the number of suicide deaths, up from 28 one year ago to 50 in 1986.

The issuance of certified copies of vital records upon request totaled 14,878 birth records and 18,698 death records for 1986. A total of 1,704 verification cards were issued in 1986 to those whose birth occurred between 1908 and 1952, since the Health Department does not have on file birth certificates for that time period.

TABLE IV
SELECTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED
MOBILE COUNTY
1982-1986

DISEASES	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
AIDS	*	1	3	7	5
Encephalitis					
Primary	3	1	4	2	5
Secondary	0	0	1	0	0
Giardiasis	180	190	303	421	254
Gonorrhea	394	4040	3602	3698	3472
Hepatitis					
A	17	7	16	17	24
B	103	102	117	150	238
Other (Inactive)	40	35	52	83	159
Legionellosis	3	2	1	0	1
Malaria	2	0	0	1	3
Measles					
Rubella	0	0	0	0	0
Rubeola	2	1	1	0	0
Meningitis					
Meningococcal	7	8	6	5	5
Other	80	74	56	125	100
Salmonella, Shigella and E. Coli Infections	86	170	60	131	130
Syphilis	158	256	230	284	263
Tetanus	2	0	1	0	0
Typhoid Fever	78	50	52	49	40
Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough (Pertussis)	3	0	4**	17	4

*Not a reportable disease in those years.
**Presumptive diagnosis.

TABLE V
SUMMARY OF VITAL EVENTS
RESIDENTS OF
MOBILE COUNTY; ALABAMA; UNITED STATES
1985-1986

EVENT	MOBILE COUNTY				ALABAMA		UNITED STATES	
	1986*		1985		1985		1985*	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Births	6574	17.1	6625	17.1	59,663	14.3	3,749,000	15.7
Deaths	3058	8.0	3292	8.5	37,531	9.0	2,084,000	8.7
Infant Deaths	92	14.0	82	12.4	752	12.6	39,500	10.6
Neonatal Deaths	73	11.1	51	7.7	496	8.3	NA	NA
Perinatal Deaths	97	14.7	87	13.0	786	13.1	NA	NA
Fetal Deaths	59	9.0	78	11.8	660	11.1	NA	NA
Maternal Deaths	1	1.5	3	4.5	11	1.8	350	0.9

* Provisional as of April 23, 1987

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

DEFINITIONS: Infant Deaths - Deaths to children under 1 year of age
Neonatal Deaths - Deaths to children 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 of gestation

TABLE VI
DEATH RATES
MOBILE COUNTY; ALABAMA; UNITED STATES
1981-1986

MOBILE COUNTY

EVENT	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Deaths	8.3	7.9	8.3	8.2	8.5	8.0
Infant Deaths	10.8	15.5	10.6	11.7	12.4	14.0
Neonatal Deaths	7.0	11.8	7.4	7.6	7.7	11.1
Perinatal Deaths	14.5	17.4	11.8	13.0	13.0	14.7
Fetal Deaths	13.8	12.8	9.6	9.8	11.8	9.0
Maternal Deaths	1.4	0.0	1.5	3.1	4.5	1.5

* Provisional data as of April 23, 1987

ALABAMA

EVENT	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Deaths	9.0	8.8	8.7	8.8	9.0	NA
Infant Deaths	12.9	13.8	13.1	12.9	12.6	NA
Neonatal Deaths	8.3	9.2	8.2	8.7	8.3	NA
Perinatal Deaths	14.4	14.1	13.5	13.3	13.1	NA
Fetal Deaths	12.3	11.2	11.1	10.3	11.1	NA
Maternal Deaths	1.1	2.0	1.4	1.4	1.8	NA

UNITED STATES

EVENT	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Deaths	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.7	NA
Infant Deaths	11.9	11.5	10.9	10.6	10.6	NA
Neonatal Deaths	8.0	7.7	7.3	6.9	NA	NA
Perinatal Deaths	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Fetal Deaths	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Maternal Deaths	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.9	NA

* Provisional data as of April 23, 1987

TABLE VII
LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH
RESIDENTS OF
MOBILE COUNTY; ALABAMA; UNITED STATES
1985-1986

CAUSE OF DEATH	MOBILE COUNTY				ALABAMA		UNITED STATES	
	1986*		1985		1985		1985*	
	Number	Rate**	Number	Rate**	Number	Rate**	Number	Rate**
Diseases of the Heart (390-398) (402) (404-429)	915	238.1	963	248.0	13,048	312.9	775,890	325.0
Malignant Neoplasms (140-208)	657	171.0	772	198.8	8,011	192.1	457,670	191.7
Diseases of Arteries (440-448)	232	60.4	238	61.3	832	19.9	44,570	18.7
Cerebrovascular Diseases (430-438)	211	54.9	244	62.8	3,304	79.2	152,710	64.0
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (490-496)	140	36.4	124	31.9	1,340	32.1	74,420	31.2
Accidents (E800-E949)	119	31.0	170	43.8	1,985	47.6	92,070	38.6
Diabetes Mellitus (250)	70	18.2	81	20.9	720	17.3	38,620	16.2
Certain Causes in Early Infancy (760-779)	62	16.1	45	11.6	383	9.2	18,250	7.6
Homicide (E960-E978)	62	16.1	53	13.6	468	11.2	19,420	8.1
Cirrhosis of Liver (571)	54	14.1	34	8.8	394	9.4	26,770	11.2
Suicide (E950-E959)	50	13.0	28	7.2	442	10.6	28,620	12.0
Influenza and Pneumonia (480-487)	33	8.6	64	16.5	942	22.6	66,630	27.9
All Other Diseases, Residual	453	117.9	476	122.6	5,662	135.8	288,360	122.6
TOTAL	3,058	795.7	3,292	847.8	37,531	899.6	2,084,000	874.8

* Provisional
** Rate per 100,000 population

Tuberculosis Control

This program, in its continuing objective of identifying, locating, treating, and following-up on cases, suspects, and contacts to active tuberculosis cases within Mobile County, reported the following activities for 1986.

There were 40 new cases of tuberculosis reported within Mobile County in 1986 representing a case rate of 10.4 per 100,000 population. A total of 31 cases appeared in the open case register at the end of calendar year 1986. In addition, there were 42 cases of atypical tuberculosis reported during 1986. The incidence of new cases of tuberculosis in Mobile County continues to decrease as reflected in Table VIII.

TABLE VIII
NEW TUBERCULOSIS CASES AND DEATHS MOBILE COUNTY 1979-1986

Year	New Cases	Case Rate Per 100,000 Population	Deaths
1979	74	23.1	5
1980	76	23.7	4
1981	65	17.4	5
1982	78	20.9	6
1983	50	13.2	3
1984	52	13.7	1
1985	49	12.6	1
1986	40	10.4	4

Tuberculosis Control continued to conduct daily clinics at the Mobile County Health Department. Special clinics were held every Tuesday and Friday for patients with special medical or treatment problems such as drug resistance, intolerance or other factors. The Health Department held 289 clinics during 1986. The clinics were staffed by contract physicians and Pulmonary Disease Fellows from the University of South Alabama Medical Center (USAMC).

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

The Mobile County Health Department through its Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Clinic has continued to offer HIV antibody (formerly referred to as HTLV-III) testing to those requesting the test. For the year 1986, 188 individuals were tested of which 20 were reported positive (11%). All individuals tested received pre-test counseling, but only 143 or 76 percent of those tested returned for post-test counseling.

During February 1986, the Health Department sought to obtain more definitive information on the prevalence of HIV antibody infection in Mobile. Serological testing for HIV antibody was instituted as a component of the routine diagnostic workup for all patients attending the Health Department's STD Clinic. During this surveillance period, 443 patients registered in the clinic of whom 302 were males and 141 were females. Serum samples were collected from all patients and screened by ELISA; all antibody-positive specimens were confirmed by Western blot assay. Serologic studies were done by the Central Laboratory Administration of the Alabama Department of Public Health. Of the 443 clinic patients, 19 (4.3%) were found to be seropositive for HIV antibody; 18 of 302 males (6.0%), and one of 141 females (0.7%). Of the 31 study patients acknowledging homosexual/bisexual relationships, 13 (41.9%) were antibody positive.

Syphilis in Mobile County for 1986 totaled 263 reported cases as compared to 284 in 1985. Primary and secondary syphilis increased slightly — 162 cases in 1986 compared to 159 in 1985. Reported cases of early latent syphilis dropped from 125 in 1985 to 101 in 1986; a 19 percent decrease in reported cases.

Morbidity for gonorrhea decreased by 6 percent in 1986 with 3,472 cases reported compared to 3,698 cases reported in 1985. Penicillinase-producing Neisseria gonorrhoeae (PPNG) saw a significant increase in reported cases. Reported cases of PPNG in 1986 totaled 42 as compared to 19 cases in 1985. One case of Tetracyline-resistant Neisseria gonorrhoeae (TRNG) was reported in 1986. Reported cases of Gonococcal Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (GPID) decreased from 113 in 1985 to 86 in 1986.

TABLE IX
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES MOBILE COUNTY 1984-1986

Year	Gonorrhea	PPNG	GPID	TRNG	Primary & Secondary Syphilis	Early Latent Syphilis
1984	3,602	21	35	0	132	98
1985	3,698	19	113	0	159	125
1986	3,472	42	86	1	162	101

Immunization

During 1986, two new satellite clinics were established bringing the total to nine satellite immunization clinics. The outlying clinics now effectively provide services to remote areas in Mobile County. Total immunizations increased by approximately 5,500; influenza immunizations increased significantly from 1,654 in 1985 to 4,345 in 1986.

The annual school entrance immunization survey indicated that 98.3 percent of the kindergarten and first grade students were adequately immunized (3 DTP, 3 OPV, 1 MMR). An immunization audit of grades 2-12

showed 99.4 percent of Mobile County's students had certificates of immunization.

During 1986, a total of 35,251 immunizations were administered to 17,086 patients in all immunization clinics as reflected in Table X.

TABLE X
IMMUNIZATIONS ADMINISTERED
1986

TYPE OF VACCINE	NUMBER
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTP)	12,337
Tetanus, diphtheria (Td)	2,370
Diphtheria, Tetanus (DT)	24
Poliomyelitis, oral (OTV)	11,556
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)	3,416
Measles, Rubella (MR)	89
Mumps	217
Haemophilus influenzae, Type B (Hib)	151
Cholera	133
Yellow Fever	75
Pneumococcal	136
Influenza (trivalent and monovalent)	4,345
Gamma Globulin (ISG)	426
TOTAL	**35,275**

Foodhandlers Program

Foodhandler permits are required for all personnel working in food service establishments who handle unpackaged foods. Requirements for new applicants consisted of a serological test for syphilis (VDRL), a tuberculin skin test, and attendance at a training session where proper methods of foodhandling and sanitation techniques are demonstrated. Foodhandlers also receive instruction on performing the Heimlich maneuver as a first aid measure for patrons who might be choking. In March 1986, the requirements for renewal of the permit were changed from an annual medical examination to one every three years. Annual attendance at an advanced course in foodhandling techniques was inaugurated as a new requirement. During 1986, there were 14,241 foodhandler permits issued, of which 6,883 were new permits and 7,358 were renewals.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

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

Environmental Health Services is responsible for protecting the public health through enforcement of environmental regulations. This is accomplished through the efforts of three programs: Inspection Services, Vector Control, and Veterinary Public Health.

Inspection Services

Personnel of Inspection Services continued their efforts of ensuring adequate environmental public health standards for the citizens of Mobile County by enforcing the existing Alabama Department of Public Health Rules and Regulations. These rules affect all areas of environmental public health including food service, retail food stores, food processing, milk and milk processing, lodging facilities, detention facilities, swimming pools, onsite sewage disposal systems, subdivision developments, and plumbing installations. Table XI depicts the numerous inspections and activities conducted in 1986 by Inspection Services to ensure compliance with state regulations.

In 1986 the Alabama Department of Public Health adopted amendments to the Rules for Food Service and Retail Food Store Regulations, allowing establishments which offer a limited food menu to be inspected and permitted under less stringent rules. These changes will allow for more uniform and consistent application of the aforementioned rules.

In accordance with the progressive goals of the U.S. Surgeon General and the Mobile County Health Officer to have a smoke-free society by the year 2000, the food inspectors conducted a survey of the public eating and lodging establishments in Mobile County. The Mobile County Health Officer publically recognized the owners of those establishments which provided nonsmoking areas for their patrons. Inspectors found that 75 of the 461 food serving establishments with onsite seating facilities had designated nonsmoking areas. Of the 57 hotels and motels surveyed, 18 had likewise taken action to designate nonsmoking accommodations for their patrons.

The increased number of lot approvals, onsite sewage disposal system inspections, and food establishment plan reviews was indicative of the continued residential and business community growth in Mobile County. Low interest rates encouraged existing homeowners to refinance their loans, thus creating a need for verification of certified onsite sewage disposal systems. The needs were fulfilled by the efforts of the field and office staff.

TABLE XI
INSPECTION SERVICES
1986

Food and Milk Sanitation Services Provided:	
Food establishments permitted	1025
Food establishment inspections	6914
Food establishment plan reviews	116
School lunchroom inspections	801
School lunchrooms permitted	77
Day care centers permitted	112
Day care centers inspected	409
Food manager training courses conducted	6
Food managers trained	174
Milk and frozen dessert samples collected	2530
Milk plants permitted	2
Milk plant inspections	24
Producer dairy inspections	103
Detention facility food service permits	14
Detention food facility inspections	34
Facility Sanitation Services Provided:	
Hotel and motel inspections	61
School sanitation inspections	95
Detention facility sanitation inspections	36
Swimming pool inspections	29
Gen. sanitation complaints investigated	901
Day care center sanitation inspections	382
Plumbing and Sewage Inspection Services Provided:	
Plumbing permits issued	1689
Plumbing inspections	3831
Septic tank permits issued	1148
Septic tank inspections	1251
Subdivisions given final approval	34
Other individual lots approved for septic tanks	839
Veterinary Public Health	
Rabies consultations	299

Vector Control

Comprehensive mosquito and rodent control services were provided to county residents through the activities of the Vector Control Program. Adult mosquito populations were monitored through a network of 14 light traps operated semi-weekly in various areas of the county. These light trap collections combined with other field surveillance techniques permitted control activities to be directed toward reducing mosquito annoyance and related health problems. *Aedes aegypti* surveillance in Mobile's historic districts continued during the year in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control. Door-to-door surveys were also completed in most urban areas of the county to inform the public about control measures appropriate for this container-breeding species. A total of 28 mosquito species were identified during the year as a result of surveillance and survey activities.

The discovery of *Aedes albopictus*, the Asian Tiger Mosquito, in several southeastern states prompted a nationwide search to assess its geographical distribution. While this species was found to be established at a site in North Alabama, a survey of Mobile County conducted with the assistance of personnel from the Centers for Disease Control proved negative. Interstate shipments of recappable tires were thought to contribute to the dispersal of this species from Gulf Coast ports involved in the orginal importation of the mosquito. Public health concerns regarding this species included its tolerance of cold weather as compared to existing container-breeding mosquito populations, as well as, the potential for transmission of various arthropod-borne diseases. Since Mobile serves as a major port on the Gulf Coast, as well as the intersecting point of two federal interstate highways, monitoring of mosquito populations for this species was continued.

Wild bird populations were sampled at 22 sites throughout the county for the purpose of assessing the frequency of arboviral exposure in avain reservoirs. Birds were collected in mist nets or walk-in traps and released following sampling. Various avian species were banded prior to their release which allowed the identification of recaptured birds. The collection and banding activities were conducted in compliance with permit requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A greater frequency of avain sampling was accomplished at sites of previously recorded arboviral activity through the use of three sentinel chicken flocks. The birds used in the sentinel flocks were obtained as day old chicks and isolated from arboviral vectors prior to their placement in the field. While no arboviral activity was recorded in the sentinel flocks, 48 of the 847 sera samples collected from the wild bird populations were positive for either Eastern Equine Encephalitis or Highland J Encephalitis or both. No St. Louis Encephalitits activity was recorded in the county.

Comprehensive mosquito control activities included applications of chemical or biological agents to areas of standing water to limit the emergence of adult mosquitoes. Over 500 sites throughout the county were inspected on a bi-weekly basis for immature mosquito larvae. The near drought conditions experienced during the spring and summer months were not as evident in Mobile County as compared to inland areas of the state. Consequently, mosquito populations remained active through most of the year. Vector Control personnel drove a total 46,218 miles in completing inspection and larvicide application activities.

The aerosol application of insectisides for control of adult mosquitoes continued during the year with truck-mounted equipment applying variable volumes of insecticide in correlation to vehicle speeds. This variable volume application provided an effective and efficient method of applying insectisides in urban environments. Locations of individuals who could be adversely affected by aerosol application on insecticides were avoided through the use of records maintained by program personnel. The adulticiding trucks were driven a total of 72,474 miles while applying 4,466 gallons of insecticides. A twin engine aircraft, puchased to replace an inoperable single engine plane, was equipped and calibrated for aerosol application of insecticides. Aerial spraying operations were conducted over Federal Aviation Administration approved routes in areas of the county inaccessible to ground vehicles. The aircraft was utilized on 41 flights to apply 1,230 gallons of insecticides.

Rodent control services were provided on a county-wide basis during the year through the investigation of complaints received from the public. Complaint investigations emphasized the association between the community environment and rodent activity and residents were required to correct sanitation problems prior to the placement of rodenticides. A total of 2,629 complaints regarding rodent acitivity was received during the year which resulted in 8,143 premises being inspected. Eight reported incidents of rodent bites were also investigated by division personnel. A total of 868 pounds of rodenticide was used to reduce rodent populations in coordination with improvements in community sanitation.

Communities identified through complaint investigations as having extensive problems with rodents were selected for door-to-door surveys. An additional 390 premises were inspected for possible rodent activity through these surveys. A survey to identify rodent activity in the Plateau Community was also completed by Vector Control personnel and was used by the State of Alabama Highway Department in planning the reconstruction of Cochrane Bridge.

Training programs in industrial and pesticide safety, as well as various vector control topics, were provided for employees throughout the year. Three employees received certification from the Centers for Disease Control for completion of the Vector Borne Disease Control Homestudy Course. Three employees were also certified by the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries for application of pesticides.

In addition to the public contact through various door-to-door surveys, public information programs were conducted by Vector Control personnel at 16 schools and three community meetings. The three-panel rodent and mosquito display units were utilized in conjunction with these presentations. Interviews on various vector control topics were also provided to local television news programs by Vector Control personnel on six occasions.

Veterinary Public Health

1986 marked the second year that the Mobile County Health Department contracted with the Mobile County Rabies Association to conduct the Rabies Control Program. This Association, comprised of private practitioners, conducted approximately 70 public animal vaccination clinics throughout Mobile County. It also conducted a countywide surveillance program complemented by enforcement actions.

Additional activities of the public health veterinarian included serving on the Mobile Animal Shelter Advisory Board and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of the University of South Alabama.

Table XII indicates the number of animals vaccinated for the period 1984 - 1986.

TABLE XII
RABIES VACCINATIONS
1984-1986

Year	Vaccinations Public Clinic	Vaccinations Private Veterinarians	Total Number	Estimated Percentage Of Pet Population
1984	6,181	36,555	42,736	35.6%
1985	2,085	46,188	48,273	40.2%
1986	2,741	59,920	62,661	52.2%

OFFICE OF HEALTH EDUCATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Office of Health Education and Public Relations had responsiblity for health education activities which included school health, community health, patient education, and the educational classes for foodhandlers. In addition, all interactions with the news media were managed by the Office. Administratively, the Office also supervised the activities of the information desk, mailroom, duplication services, and building maintenance.

The Family Health Program offered in all public middle schools at the eighth grade level was expanded to include a program for sixth graders. The eighth grade program (five hour course) was taught at 21 public middle shools reaching 3,659 students. The new sixth grade program (three hour course) was presented in 18 schools with a total of 2,746 participants.

Health education presentations were made to private and public schools, universities, community agencies, church groups, civic clubs, and organizations. Health educators and other professional staff made 61 presentations with a total of 2,600 in attendance. In addition, a total of 3,162 educational pamphlets were distributed through the Office.

An internal Health Promotion Council was established with representation from all clinical programs. The Council's main function was to oversee and approve all patient education materials used in all clinics.

In an effort to provide group patient education in clinic waiting rooms, closed circuit television monitors were placed in the Adult, Family Planning, and WIC waiting rooms. Health programs were played through a central video cassette recorder six hours daily. Plans for expansion into other clinic waiting rooms are under consideration for next year.

In 1986, the Office assumed responsibility for the presentation of foodhandler classes. A one-hour advanced educational program was introduced for foodhandler renewals stressing proper foodhandling and sanitation techniques.

The Car Seat Loaner Program was able to maintain its level of activity. A total of 127 families made use of the loaner program. Plans were initiated to have a computerized tracking system of all infant restraints to indicate the status of all car seats. Computer-generated letters will be sent to those persons with delinquent seats.

Monthly health promotion staff meetings continued for the second year in 1986. Several health screenings were also made available to employees throughout the year.

Publicity, information, and resource referral was provided for all bureaus and divisions. During 1986, 21 assorted news releases appeared in print; 21 radio interviews were recorded; and staff members made 50 appearances on television.

An anti-smoking campaign was initiated in Mobile County in hopes of assisting U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. C. Everett Koop, in meeting his national goal of a smoke-free society by the year 2000. The first phase of the campaign involved a survey of hotels/motels and of food establishments with seating capacity to ascertain the existence of designated areas or sleeping rooms for nonsmokers. The survey revealed that 33 percent of the hotels/motels have designated sleeping rooms for nonsmokers. Among restaurants, 16 percent have separate seating for nonsmokers. The Health Department will continue to work with these groups to encourage the voluntary establishment of nonsmoking areas. The second phase of the campaign surveyed the health care industry: physicians' offices, dentists' offices, pharmacies, hospitals, nursing homes, ambulatory clinics, and voluntary health agencies. The intent of the survey was to obtain information on the smoking policies and practices in the health care industry. The results clearly indicated that health care providers have taken heed of advice to give up smoking. Further plans call for a business and industry survey. Ultimately, all of the data generated will be presented to public officials in hopes of having a city ordinance restricting smoking in public buildings.

As an adjunct to the anti-smoking campaign, smoking cessation programs were offered to groups onsite upon request. Through referrals from the American Cancer Society, the Fresh Start Program (4 hours) was offered to four businesses with a total of 33 participants.

MEDICAL PLANS, PROGRAMS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

The Office of Medical Plans, Programs and Quality Assurance was responsible for strategic planning, research and evaluation, resource development, grants management, and information systems and liasion. During 1986, emphasis was placed on research and evaluation, grants management, information systems and liaison.

During the year, this Office was successful in obtaining a grant for $99,202 from the Centers for Disease Control for a state-based Diabetes Control Program for preventing blindness and other complications from coexisting diabetes and hypertension. The Mobile County Health Department was chosen as the site for a pilot project for this grant which will be expanded statewide in the future.

Formal quality assurance mechanisms were developed to insure the provision of quality health care at the Mobile County Health Department. The criteria primarily used in the audit documents were: outcome, process productivity, quality, and cost. The Tuberculosis Clinic was the first program evaluated and quarterly audits of the medical records and related documents were established. The Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic was evaluated and audits were also conducted. A Quality Assurance Plan for the federally funded Pediatric and Adult Clinics was

approved by the Regional Office and will be implemented in 1987. An evaluation of the Food Inspection Program was conducted and proposed audit criteria are being reviewed. This Office will continue to move ahead in establishing ongoing quality assurance in each service area.

The Office was also responsible for coordination of computer applications for the Health Department. During 1986, accounting and budgeting were placed on-line, environmental permitting programs were expanded, word processing was implemented, a car seat loaner program was written, and an on-line pharmacy inventory system was developed. The Health Department will expand the uses of the IBM-38 even further next year.

PERSONNEL

The year ended with a total of 205 employees and annual payroll, including fringe benefits, of $4,037,175. A total of 29 employees terminated their employment during 1986. There were 21 resignations, 4 retirements, 3 lay-offs and 1 termination.

During the year, Personnel conducted 74 interviews of applicants from certification lists supplied by the Mobile County Personnel Board, and appointed 27 of these to fill full-time positions. Additionally, 6 employees were promoted to a higher classification through merit system examination. There were 38 persons employed on a temporary part-time basis, primarily in Vector Control during the summer months.

Again this year, the Health Department participated in the Summer Youth Employment Program and 17 students were assigned to our agency to assist in clerical functions with funding provided by the Job Training Partnership Act.

The Health Department was represented at career fairs held at the University of South Alabama and at the University of Alabama during 1986.

Fourteen employees were approved to attend training courses in supervision and communication skills, offered through the Training Office of the Mobile County Personnel Board. With assistance from the Health Department, two employees completed requirements for a Master's Degree in Public Health.

With very satisfying results, 24 employees completed a two-day in-house Professional Development Workshop for secretarial/clerical staff presented by Mrs. Sylvia Stamm. A motivation and self-esteem workshop was held by Dr. Jerry Patterson for all employees in December 1986.

The recipient of the David Previto Award as the Employee of the Year for 1986 was Mildred E. Bonner, a Nurses Aide in the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control.

CONTROLLER

Annual revenue for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1986, for local funds amounted to a total of $3,254,500, a decrease of $261,063 over local funds received during fiscal year 1985. The changes in revenue were due to decreases in oil and gas severence taxes and Medicaid/Medicare reimbursements. Table XII summarizes the sources of fund and their application during the fiscal year.

Payments to Mobile County toward reimbursement for overpayments of oil and gas severence taxes in fiscal years 1980 through 1983 totalled $24,698.37.

Two audits were conducted during the year as required by state and federal authorities. The State Examiners of Public Accounts audited the entire fiscal operation of the Health Department for Fiscal Years 1983, 1984, and 1985; the primary care grant was audited for Fiscal Year 1986. Both audits revealed sound fiscal operations with minor adjustments to be made.

DATA PROCESSING

The IBM System 38 Computer was updated from a Model 4 to a Model 6 through the addition of a larger internal processor. The external storage capacity was expanded by the addition of one 3370-B12 Disk Drive. A key lock feature was installed to provide greater security on the central processing unit. Two 5291 CRT terminals were added bringing the total of CRT terminals in use at the Health Department to 25.

The Control Program Facility (CPF) software was updated from Version 6 to Version 7 providing greater programming flexibility for the Data Processing programming staff. The Text Edit Management software package was installed to provide word processing capability to each individual 5291 display terminal.

New applications developed inlcuded budget, pharmacy inventory, car seat tracking, and enhancement of the environmental health permitting system. The budget application was interfaced with the existing payroll system to provide automated posting of payroll transactions. This application produced revenue and expenditure reports and utilized the word processor to print financial statements. The pharmacy inventory application is an on-line system that controls the physical inventory and produces a formulary report. The car seat tracking application is an on-line system that tracks car seat rentals and utilizes the word processor to send notification letters. The environmental health permitting system was enhanced to utilize the word processor in the system tracking process.

TABLE XIII
SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS
FISCAL YEAR 1985-1986
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1986

SOURCE OF FUNDS:

Appropriations:

Local Government		
County of Mobile	$ 364,379	
City of Mobile	484,00	
Other Municipalities	31,180	
State of Alabama	378,890	
Other Appropriations	23,858	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS:		**$1,282,307**

Grants:

Cancer Detection	$ 16,978	
Diabetic Control (9/1/86-8/31/87)	52	
DHR Homemaker	28,755	
Family Health Clinic (6/1/85-5/31/86)	805,104	
Family Planning (7/1/85-6/30/86)	268,233	
Maternity	556,115	
Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)	396,345	
TOTAL GRANTS		**$2,071,582**
AD VALOREM TAXES:		**$1,136,693**

Other Funds Received:

Ad Valorem Refunds & Interest	$ 27,965	
Family Health Clinc Earned Income	207,436	
Local Fees, Permits, Miscellaneous	445,466	
Local Refunds & Interest	26,955	
Local Rentals	148,929	
Medicaid/Medicare	55,588	
Oil & Gas Severance Taxes	493,968	
Reimbursements (Federal, State & Other Projects)	784,160	
Sale of Fixed Assets	30,777	
School Health	19,646	
Transfers In	227,339	
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS		**$2,468,229**
TOTAL REVENUE FOR YEAR:		**$6,958,811**

APPLICATION OF FUNDS:

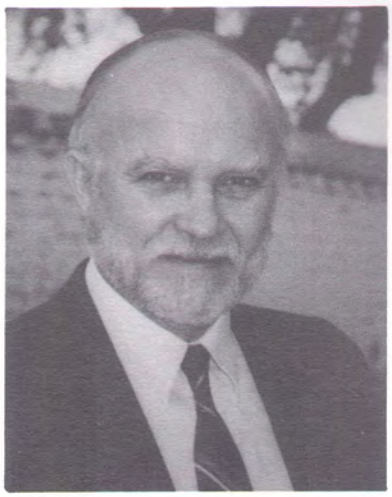
	LOCAL	AD VALOREM	FEDERAL	TOTAL
Personnel Costs	$2,437,854	$ 360,647	$1,284,831	$4,083,332
Contractual Services	219,245	44,779	279,071	543,095
Travel	38,309	1,931	20,068	60,308
Equipment	156,451	45,618	8,619	210,688
Supplies & Other	584,167	257,931	241,439	1,083,537
Indirect Cost	—0—	116,489	292,659	409,148
Capital Expenses	21,723	—0—	—0—	21,723
Transfers Out	—0—	227,339	—0—	227,339
TOTALS	**$3,457,749**	**$1,054,734**	**$2,126,687**	**$6,639,170**

* First month of new grant.
** Grant Year Ending in Local Fiscal Year.

1986 SERVICE AWARDS

James Pope
30 years

James Fibbe
20 years



Edgar Hughes
10 years

Bessie Robinson
10 years

Mary Alice Taylor
10 years

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 Health Education and Public Relations