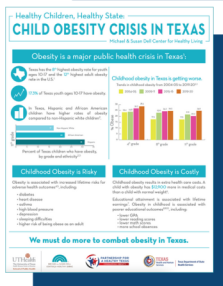


Texas Research-to-Policy Collaboration (TX RPC) Project

Data-Driven Resources for Health Policy

TX RPC Health Policy Resources

Synthesize information related to public health topics of interest as expressed by Texas legislators. [Please complete this form](#) if you would like to request a health policy resource developed for policy.



Maternal & Child Health

February 14, 2023

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. The quality of a mother's health before, during, and after pregnancy has lasting impacts on the health and well-being of both mother and child.
2. The maternal mortality crisis is compounded by Texas by the number of maternal care deaths across the state.
3. The best approach for preventing maternal death is ensuring adequate health care services before, during, and after pregnancy.
4. Midwives, doulas, home-visiting nurses, and community health workers can help boost the maternal care workforce, especially in rural communities.
5. Ensuring adequate and timely data collection and analysis of state maternal and infant morbidity and mortality is essential to monitor trends.

PROBLEM

The quality of a mother's pregnancy determines the well-being of her infant and is also the time when the foundations of a child's lifelong health are built. (1)
• Prenatal exposures to maternal malnutrition, elevated levels of stress hormones, or infection in utero can lead to chronic outcomes later in life through air pathways, changes that can impact either the developing brain directly or the health of the mother, which in turn affects fetal development. (2)
Pregnancy can also impact the health of the mother beyond the birth of her child.

TX Child Health Status Reports

Provide abbreviated, digestible information highlighting state-level child health disparities and risk factors. Data are also available from Public Health regions and border/non-border levels using the [Texas School Physical Activity and Nutrition \(TX SPAN\) Project](#).

TX Legislative Bill Tracker

Follows child health-specific bills through the legislative process in real time while providing research and links to previous legislation.

Bill	Status	Effective Date	Category
H.B. 1077: Reading to the eligibility of certain students enrolled in a postsecondary educational institution for the supplemental nutrition assistance program.	Referred to Senate committee	02/17/2023	TX
H.B. 2045: Reading to a job project to provide medical nutrition assistance to certain business employees in the state.	Referred to Senate committee	05/01/2023	TX
H.B. 1267: Reading to the exclusion of certain incomes in determining eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program.	Signed by the Governor	06/10/2023	TX
H.B. 4971: Reading to measures to address student hunger at postsecondary educational institutions.	Referred to Senate committee	06/10/2023	TX
H.B. 1001: Reading to the eligibility of certain students enrolled in a postsecondary educational institution for the supplemental nutrition assistance program.	Referred to House committee	03/03/2023	TX
H.B. 4021: Reading to the eligibility of certain students enrolled in a postsecondary educational institution for the supplemental nutrition assistance program.	Referred to House committee	03/03/2023	TX

PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS & UPDATES

TEXAS RESEARCH-TO-POLICY COLLABORATION

May 2023

2023 TX RPC LEGISLATIVE BILL TRACKER

The TX RPC Project has updated the legislative bill tracker! Since the 2013 session, the tracker is now a "Bill Tracker" to help you stay on top of legislative updates and identify proposed bills related to child and adolescent health. The tracker is organized into general categories such as food access and nutrition, maternal and child health, child development, reproductive health, and child abuse and neglect. Bills tracked are selected based on the Center's understanding of child and adolescent health, research for the TX RPC researchers, and health priorities identified by TX RPC legislators during legislative interviews.

[USE THE BILL TRACKER](#)

TX RPC HEALTH POLICY RESOURCES

Division of Technology Use in Addressing Health - MSP
Texas Research-to-Policy Collaboration Project

TX RPC Newsletters

Facilitate communication about public health resources. Content highlights the work of TX RPC Project Network Researchers and partner organizations, and provides data-driven health information to Texas legislators. [Subscribe here.](#)

Michael & Susan Dell Center for Healthy Living Webinar Series

Provides public health presentations and trainings from state, national, and international experts in the field. Recordings are archived for future viewing.

What's for Lunch? The Past, Present, and Future of School Nutrition

Publication Date: 05/01/2023

This webinar will address recent and current debates surrounding school food and highlight the importance of public health nutrition research to guide policymakers.

Visit Our Website!



- TX Research-to-Policy Collaboration Project:** go.uth.edu/TXRPCProject
- TX RPC Health Policy Resources & Report Request Form:** go.uth.edu/RPCresources
- TX Child Health Status Reports:** go.uth.edu/TXChildHealthStatusReports
- TX SPAN Interactive Data Explorer:** span-interactive.sph.uth.edu
- TX Legislative Bill Tracker:** go.uth.edu/TXLegislativeBillTracker
- TX RPC Newsletter Archive:** go.uth.edu/RPCnewsletter
- Center Webinars:** go.uth.edu/MSDCenterWebinars

55 health policy resources developed and disseminated* via website, email and e-newsletter since June 2020

Spotlight on Health Policy Resources

Health Policy Resources Based on Legislative Priorities

Maternal and Child Health:

- Paid Family Leave and Maternal & Infant Outcomes
- Maternal & Child Health
- Doula Services

Food-Related:

- College Students and SNAP Utilization
- Community Eligibility Provisions (CEP)
- Double Up Food Bucks: A SNAP Incentive Program
- Produce Prescription (Rx) Programs
- SNAP Vehicle Value Limits
- SNAP Work Requirements
- Economic and Business Benefits of SNAP
- Health Benefits of SNAP
- SNAP Gap
- Grocery Gap

Chronic Disease:

- Public Health Experts are Needed in Policy Workgroups, Task Forces, and Advisory Committees

Mental Health:

- Impact of Technology Use on Adolescent Health
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- Building Responsible and Resilient Youth
- Child Behavioral Health

Healthcare Access:

- Public Health Outcomes of Healthcare Access
- Foundations of Community Health
- Mpox

School-Based Health (K-12):

- School Health Advisory Councils (SHACs)

Additional Resources:

- Impact of Hydrogen Sulfide Emissions on Health Outcomes
-

Texas School Physical Activity and Nutrition Project (TX SPAN)

Texas Child Health Status Reports:

- Obesity
 - Nutrition
 - Physical Activity
 - Sleep Quality
 - Screen Time
 - Sugar-Sweetened Beverages
 - Eating Away From Home
 - Breakfast Consumption
 - Teen Vaping
 - Vaping Advertisements and Teens
 - Vaping with Flavors
-

State-Level and Legislative District Data

- SNAP Utilization and Eligibility in Texas and Texas Legislative Districts
 - Data Brief: Food Access in Texas and Texas Legislative Districts
-

COVID-19

- Impact on Child Mental Health
 - Protecting Our Children
 - Myth vs. Fact
 - Considerations for Reopening K-12 Schools
 - Impact of Working from Home on Mental Health
 - Impact of Pre-Existing Health Conditions
 - Impact of Obesity on Health Outcomes
 - Impact on Food Insecurity
 - Comparing Vaccines: Pfizer/BioNTech vs. Moderna
 - Frontline Workers during the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Nursing Home and Long Term Care Facilities
-

*Some TX RPC Health Policy Resources are not publicly available. For more information about these resources, please email us: TXRPCNetwork@uth.tmc.edu

