Texas Research-to-Policy Collaboration Project

The Texas Research-to-Policy Collaboration (TX RPC) Project optimizes the use of Texas research, data and resources to assist legislators in developing effective health policies.

TX RPC provides data-driven information tailored to legislative districts, which can be a powerful tool for developing and implementing health policies in Texas.

TX RPC supports legislators by:
- providing Texas-level data
- sharing current research and resources on health issues
- establishing partnerships between researchers and legislators

May-August 2022
Identification of Texas Health Policy Needs
Feedback Questionnaire #1

May 2022-May 2023
Respond to Legislator Information Requests

September 2022-December 2023
Collaborative Meetings;
Lunch & Learn Sessions

May-December 2023
Feedback Questionnaire #2

HEALTH POLICY RESOURCES & SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATORS

Lunch & Learn Sessions

TX RPC Health Policy Reports

Rapid Response Requests

TX RPC Newsletters

Collaboration Meetings

TX Child Health Status Reports

Center Webinars

TX Legislature Bill Tracker

LEGISLATOR AND RESEARCHER COLLABORATION

1 **Improve the health of Texans through policymaking:** Assist legislators seeking to use Texas research, data and other trusted resources in their policy development.

2 **Connect state and local stakeholders with health researchers:** Support legislator-researcher connections by providing data-driven information during Legislative Sessions.

3 **Respond to state legislative requests:** Develop and disseminate health policy resources to support legislative requests for information that informs health policy.

LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS & HEALTH POLICY PRIORITIES

June 2020 - Present: Synthesize information related to public health topics of interest as expressed by Texas legislators.

55 health policy resources developed by TX RPC staff in collaboration with content experts based on legislative requests and policy priorities.

Resources posted on the TX RPC webpage and distributed via website, email and newsletter.

TEXAS LEGISLATIVE BILL TRACKER

Since the 2013 session, the Center has hosted a legislative bill tracker that follows child health-specific bills through the legislative process in real time while providing research and links to previous legislation.

Bill Topics Tracked in 2023:

- Active Transportation and Build Environment
- Early Childcare Education
- Food Access and Insecurity
- Healthcare Access

- Medicaid/Medicare
- Telehealth
- Maternal & Child Health
- Obesity
- Oral Health

- School & After-School Care
- School Behavioral Health
- Tobacco & E-cigarettes
- Child Behavioral Health
- Vaccines

TX RPC HEALTH POLICY RESOURCES

Disseminates state-level and public health region information on public health topics of interest expressed by Texas legislators.

Reports Based on Legislative Priorities:

- Healthcare Access
- Nutrition
- Physical Activity
- Mental Health
- Pre-Existing Conditions

- Obesity
- Maternal Child Health
- Vaccinations
- COVID-19 and more!

TEXAS CHILD HEALTH STATUS REPORTS

Provide abbreviated, digestible reports highlighting data on 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)** surveillance system.

Reports Featuring Texas Data:
- 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

MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL CENTER FOR HEALTHY LIVING WEBINAR SERIES

Provides presentations and trainings on public health topics by state, national and international experts. Webinars are archived for future viewing.

Webinars Topics:
- Food Systems
- School Health
- Health Disparities
- Maternal and Child Health
- Obesity Prevention (Physical Activity, Nutrition)
- COVID-19, and many more!

TX RPC NEWSLETTERS

Facilitate communication with legislators 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.**

PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS & UPDATES
TEXAS RESEARCH-TO-POLICY COLLABORATION

May 2023
2023 TX RPC LEGISLATIVE BILL TRACKER

USE THE BILL TRACKER

TX RPC HEALTH POLICY RESOURCES

CONTACT

For more information about the TX RPC Project and how to get involved:

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go.uth.edu/TXRPCProject

Texas Research–to–Policy Collaboration Project

UTHealth Houston School of Public Health

MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL CENTER for HEALTHY LIVING